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Royal Burgh of Kirkcaldy

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
**Medical Officer
of Health**
and the
Sanitary Inspector
for the
Year 1971

ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY

*With the Medical Officer's
Compliments*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HOUSE,

KIRKCALDY.

October, 1972.

To the PROVOST, MAGISTRATES AND TOWN COUNCILLORS
OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY

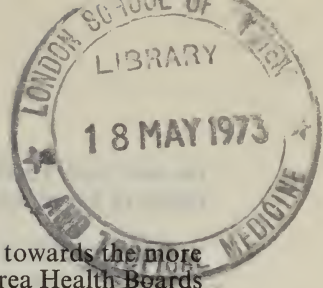
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of
the Burgh for the year 1971.

FREDERICK S. MELVILLE

Medical Officer of Health

INTRODUCTION



1971 has been a year of slow but steady progress towards the more rational health care system which the coming of the Area Health Boards in 1974 is supposed to help to achieve by consolidating the management of the various parts of the health services.

The midwifery service was fully integrated with the hospital service at the beginning of April and, by virtue of the fact that there are now adequate numbers of General Practitioner beds in the local Maternity Hospital and that effectively no woman has her baby at home with the General Practitioner services, this has produced even greater dividends than was foreseen in that there is even closer and better communication between the midwives and the health visitors overall than before and the mothers do not have to cope with too many quickly changing experts on infant care and the change comes at a more convenient time than has been the case in recent years.

Family Planning services, thanks to the interest and enthusiasm of the Family Planning Association and the doctors and nurses working in the service, have increased in scope and extent.

No effort has as yet been made to introduce a Domiciliary Family Planning Service but by enthusiastic staff participation the feeling is that no family who are prepared to co-operate, no matter how ineffectively because of ignorance or prejudice, are denied the service.

Towards the end of the year another step towards giving a fully comprehensive domiciliary treatment and preventative service was taken with the introduction of a Domiciliary Physiotherapy Service. This service got quickly into its stride and there was immediate evidence of its value in improving the independence and morale of many of the older and handicapped persons. Of necessity, because of the scarcity of Physiotherapists, the service can only be given for short periods to individuals who are likely to improve significantly and quickly and many others who would gain personal benefit but who would not become more active or independent cannot be given this service.

At the time of writing this report, September, 1972, there is still no sign of an actual start being made to the projected Health Centre and progress has been very slow on this.

The Day Hospital for Geriatrics which it was hoped would start in Hayfield Clinic was to have at least got off the ground by this time but it is understood there have been further snags, mainly financial and there is no word of this either yet.

There is no need to end on any note of despondency however, for much valuable work is being done by doctors and nurses in the Health Department with the active co-operation of General Practitioners, Head-

masters and Teachers in schools, Consultants and with other departments of Local Authority.

Health Education and Preventive Medicine is a frustrating vocation but I would like to thank all the members of the staff for their continuing enthusiasm and unstinting efforts to improve our service.

Finally I would like to thank the Council and particularly the Convener and members of the Health Committee for their continuing help and encouragement.

INDEX TO SECTIONS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1971	Pages
Introduction	3, 4
B.C.G. Vaccination	26, 30
Births (Statistics)	12, 15
Causes of Death	12-14, 16
Clinics:	8, 22, 23
Ante-natal	17
Diagnostic	32
Child Welfare	18-19
Dental Inspection and Treatment	40-42
Dental Care for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Pre-School Children	20
Disabled Drivers	37
Factories Act	42
Family Planning	32
Life Marriage Guidance	37
Health Visiting	20-23
Home Help Service	32
Home Nursing	23, 24
Housing (Medical Conditions)	31
Infantile Mortality	15, 16, 17
Infectious Disease	33-37
Medical Examinations	37
Medico-Social Work	23
Midwifery	20
Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act 1938	33
Port Health Administration	37
Preparation Classes	17
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care	30-32
Chiropody	31
Health Education	30
Provision of Nursing Equipment	31
Tuberculosis	31, 36
School Health Service	37-40
Staff	7, 8
Vaccination and Immunisation	24-30
Vital Statistics	10, 11
Welfare Foods	19
Wider Basic Training	23

Acknowledgements	73
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions Act)	71
Atmospheric Pollution	65, 66
Burial Grounds	66
Caravan Sites	70, 71
Civic Amenities Act	70
Clean Air Acts	64, 65
Factories	64
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	71
Food and Drugs	51-54
Food Premises and Hygiene	54, 55, 56
Historical	72, 73
Housing	47, 48, 49
Ice Cream and Ice Cream Premises	59, 60
Infectious Disease	62, 63
Links Market	56
Meat Inspection	57, 58
Milk (Special Designations) Order	49
Milk Supply	49, 50, 51
Noise Abatement Act	62
Nuisances and Sanitary Defects	60, 61, 62
Office, Shops and Railway Premises Act	67, 68
Pasteurisers	51
Pet Animals Act	71
Pharmacy and Poisons Act and Orders	71
Places of Public Refreshment	60
Port Health Inspections	63
Public Conveniences	70
Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations	71
Rat and Mice Destruction	62
Refuse Collection and Disposal	68, 69
Riding Establishment Act	71
Rivers Pollution	66, 67
Schools, Cinemas, Public Buildings and Dance Halls	67
Sewers and Drains	70
Shops Act	60
Staff	73
Street Cleansing	69
Unsound Food	56, 57
Water Supply	64

STAFF

DESIGNATION	OFFICER	QUALIFICATION
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer	Frederick S. Melville	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.
Depute Medical Officer of Health	James A. Petrie M.C.,	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health	Agnes C. D. Penman	M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G.
Dental Officers	Rachel I. Mears John W. McConnachie Mrs. A. Wright (Part-time)	L.D.S. L.D.S. L.D.S.
Superintendent of Nurses	Rachel R. Cullen	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.
Health Visitors	Miss M. Cairns Miss D. M. Cairns Mrs. M. S. Campbell Mrs. I. J. Hale Mrs. A. Harper Mrs. M. L. Millsap Miss I. M. Porteous (Resigned 10/9/71) Miss B. Scott Mrs. J. Snodgrass Miss J. Stewart Miss A. Whyte (Appointed 13/9/71) Miss B. Williamson Mrs. C. Wood	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., N.N.E.B. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., S.R.M.N., H.V. S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., Obstet. Course R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
Medico-Social Worker	Agnes C. Bowman	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
District Nurses	Mrs. M. F. F. Coumbis Mrs. A. M. Givens Mrs. M. McGrath Miss J. McGown (Transferred from Municipal Midwives 1/4/71) Miss I. Peggie Mrs. F. M. Robertson Mrs. D. Turnbull Mrs. M. L. Welsh Miss P. Walker	R.G.N., S.C.M. R.G.N. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M. R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N. R.G.N. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N. R.G.N. R.G.N., S.C.M. R.G.N., S.C.M.
State Enrolled Nurses	Mrs. E. McGrory Mrs. W. G. Fairful Mrs. J. McAlinden Mrs. D. Ritchie	S.E.N. S.E.N. S.E.N. S.E.N.
Municipal Midwives	Miss R. C. Taylor (Resigned 1/4/71)	S.C.M.
Clinic Nurses	Mrs. J. King Mrs. C. L. McMillan	R.G.N. R.G.N., S.C.M., S.R.M.N.

Physiotherapist	Mr. R. Walsh (Appointed 1/11/71) Mrs. R. Borthwick (part-time) (Resigned 25/5/71) Mrs. C. McDonald (part-time) (Commenced 31/5/71)	M.C.S.P.
Chiropodists	Mr. Richard Forbes Mrs. M. J. F. Grieve	M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch. M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch.
Home Help Organiser	Mrs. J. Walker	
Consultant Oculist	J. Burns-Brown	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.O.M.S.

CLINICS

Tuberculosis and V.D. Dispensaries	Victoria Hospital
Child Welfare; Ante-Natal; Dental; Eye; U.V.R.; Relaxation; Immunisation;	
Family Planning Clinics	Loughborough Road
Dental	Glebe Park
Child Welfare; Ante-Natal; Dental; Relaxation; Diagnostic; Immunisation;	
Hearing Clinic	Fair Isle Road
Child Welfare; Immunisation Clinics	Alison Street
Child Welfare; Chiropody Clinics	Hayfield Road

VITAL STATISTICS

**COMPARATIVE ANNUAL NUMBER AND
RATES OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS**

Year	Popu- lation	Births		Infant Deaths		Maternal Deaths			Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation
		No.	Rate per 1,000 Total Popu- lation	No.	Infant Mort- ality	Puer- peral Fever	Other	Rate per 1,000 Births		
1930	43,796	789	18.0	47	60	1	5	7.6	537	12.3
1	43,904	757	17.2	42	55	4	5	11.9	545	12.4
2	44,170	743	16.8	53	71	2	7	12.1	576	13.0
3	44,622	729	16.3	65	89	3	2	6.9	579	13.0
4	44,565	728	16.3	44	60	1	5	8.2	587	13.2
5	44,622	704	15.8	45	64	1	1	3.0	540	12.1
6	44,740	686	15.3	53	77	2	1	4.4	551	12.5
7	44,947	715	15.9	48	67	2	6	11.2	553	12.3
8	45,421	764	16.8	41	54	1	5	7.9	552	12.2
9	46,579	758	16.3	51	67	—	3	4.0	590	12.7
1940	44,660	682	14.5	44	65	—	6	8.8	632	14.2
1	44,100	722	15.1	40	55	—	5	6.9	542	12.3
2	43,300	736	15.4	48	65	—	7	9.5	551	12.7
3	42,367	767	16.1	35	46	—	2	2.6	564	13.3
4	42,461	823	17.1	29	35	—	3	3.6	551	13.0
5	42,929	697	14.5	28	40	—	3	4.3	530	12.3
6	45,656	964	20.1	44	46	—	—	—	578	12.7
7	47,897	1,102	23.0	58	53	—	4	3.6	631	13.2
8	48,671	980	20.1	33	34	—	3	3.0	573	11.8
9	49,000	887	18.1	47	53	—	1	1.1	592	12.1
1950	49,425	896	18.1	37	41	—	2	1.1	672	13.6
1	49,230	923	18.7	33	36	—	—	—	645	13.1
2	49,424	810	16.4	31	38	—	1	1.2	588	11.9
3	50,119	840	16.8	24	29	—	—	—	535	10.7
4	50,520	938	18.6	24	26	—	2	2.13	624	12.4
5	51,093	856	16.8	27	32	—	1	1.2	553	10.8
6	51,475	901	17.5	23	26	—	—	—	551	10.7
7	51,825	946	18.3	22	23	—	—	—	564	10.9
8	52,061	1,017	19.5	20	20	—	1	0.98	524	10.1
9	52,407	958	18.3	15	16	—	—	—	568	10.8
1960	52,515	874	16.6	14	16	—	—	—	520	9.9
1	52,644	981	18.6	21	21	—	—	—	597	11.3
2	52,697	967	18.4	24	25	—	—	—	551	10.5
3	52,638	942	17.9	15	16	—	—	—	612	11.6
4	51,996	848	16.3	19	22	—	—	—	609	11.7
5	51,917	923	17.8	19	21	—	—	—	584	11.2
6	51,886	875	16.9	15	17	—	—	—	601	11.6
7	52,102	917	17.6	19	21	—	—	—	559	10.7
8	52,125	913	17.5	17	18	—	1	1.0	551	10.6
9	52,097	869	16.7	16	18	—	—	—	652	12.5
1970	52,075	769	14.8	15	20	—	—	—	608	11.7
1	50,091	806	16.1	23	29	—	—	—	579	11.6

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate 1971)					50,091
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Kirkcaldy</i>	<i>Scotland</i>
Live Births	408	398	806		
Birth Rate (Births per 1,000 population)	—	—	—	16.1	16.6
Illegitimate Births	34	43	77		
Percentage illegitimate per 100 live-births	—	—	—	9.6	8.1
Deaths of Infants under one year .	13	10	23		
Infant Mortality Rate (Deaths per 1,000 live-births)				29	20
Number of Still-births	8	3	11		
Still-Birth Rate (Still-births per 1,000 live and still-births)	—	—	—	13	13.3
Neonatal Deaths	8	4	12		
(Infants dying under one month)					
Neonatal Death Rate (Infants dying under one month per 1,000 live births)	—	—	—	15	13.5
Perinatal Deaths	15	6	21		
(Still-births and those dying in first week of life)					
Perinatal Death Rates (Still-births and those dying in first week per 1,000 live and still-births)	—	—	—	25.7	24.5
Marriages			495		
Marriage Rate				9.9	8.1
Deaths (all ages)	283	296	579		
Death Rate per 1,000 population .				11.6	11.8
Maternal Deaths	—	—	—		
Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	—	—	—	—	0.17
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms .	66	75	141		
Percentage of total deaths	—	—	—	24.3	20.7
Deaths from Tuberculosis	—	—	—		
(pulmonary and non-pulmonary)					
Death Rate Tuberculosis per 1,000 population	—	—	—	—	0.04
Deaths from accidents in the home .	3	4	7		
Death Rate per 1,000 population .	—	—	—	0.14	0.145
Deaths from Road Accidents	3	1	4		
Death Rate per 1,000 population .	—	—	—	0.08	0.17
Area of Burgh				5,738 acres	
Number of inhabited houses in Burgh (as at 16/5/71)				17,503	
Rateable Value (as at 16/5/71)				£1,717,676	
Cost of services administered by Health Committee					
(N.H.S. (Scotland) Act 1947)					
(Financial Year 1971-72)	Expenditure			£111,523	
	Income			5,502	
	Net Cost			106,021	
Cost of Public Health Services administered by Health Committee					
	Expenditure			28,785	
	Income			552	
	Net Cost			28,233	

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population of Kirkcaldy was 50,091 which was 1,984 fewer than the estimate for 1970. The 1971 census had a figure for the population of Kirkcaldy of 50,490. Even this figure is about 1,600 less than the estimate for 1970. There is no apparent reason for this sudden fall during the course of one year and it must be presumed that there has been some error in the estimations over the last few years and the population figure for the Burgh has been optimistic.

As this is census year it must be assumed that the Registrar General's estimate is now reasonably accurate.

The statistical data in this report are based on the Registrar General's end year estimate of 50,091.

AREA

The Burgh area remains at 5,738 acres, and the number of inhabited houses is the same as last year.

BIRTHS

There were 806 live births referable for the Burgh during the year representing a rate of 16.1 per thousand of the population. It will be recalled that in 1970 the rate, 14.8, was the lowest since 1945, a war year, but 16.1 is still lower than the national average.

77 illegitimate births was 8 more than last year and whilst appreciating the figures are too small to be statistically significant it is a rise in the illegitimate rate from 9% to 9.6% which is a very undesirable trend, a statement not made in any moralising way but because it means more and more children without secure backgrounds and ever increasing problems in years to come of deprived children and mental health problems in adulthood.

DEATHS

Deaths in the Burgh amounted to 579 giving a rate of 11.6 per thousand of the population as compared to 11.7 for the previous year and to the national rate of 11.8.

The principal causes of death in order were arterio-sclerotic heart disease including coronary disease, vascular lesions affecting the central nervous system, cancer and chest disease; all the remainder of the principal causes playing a very small part.

Cancer of the respiratory system, trachea, bronchus and lung, accounted for 29 out of a total of 66 male deaths from all types of cancer compared to 33 out of 70 last year, on the face of it an improvement but not so cheerful when 23 of these 29 are found to be under 65 years of age as compared to 15 last year.

MALES	Total No. Deaths Cancer	No. of Deaths Cancer Respiratory System
YEAR		
1965	49	16
1966	57	23
1967	52	22
1968	62	26
1969	58	29
1970	70	33
1971	66	29

Fatal accidents in the home totalled 7 (3 males, 4 females) and on the roads 4 (3 males, 1 female) an increase of 1 and 2 respectively compared with 1970.

CAUSES OF DEATH Arranged according to cause, sex and age

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALES							FEMALES						
	0-	1-	15-	25-	45-	65+	Total	0-	1-	15-	25-	45-	65+	Total
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases													1	1
Measles								1						1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system														
Other infective and parasitic diseases					1	1	2						1	1
Malignant Neoplasms - Total				3	20	43	66				5	24	46	75
*Malignant neoplasm of stomach						1	1						6	6
*Malignant neoplasm of trachea, bronchus and lung				2	7	20	29				1	4	3	8
*Malignant neoplasm of breast											1	6	8	15
*Malignant neoplasm of cervix uteri												2		2
*Malignant neoplasm of lymphatic and haematopoietic tissue					2	1	3				2	2	6	10
*Other malignant neoplasms				1	11	21	33				1	10	23	34
Benign and unspecified neoplasms													1	1
Diabetes Mellitus					1		1						5	5
Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiency														
Anaemias													2	2
Other general diseases													1	1
Meningitis														
Other diseases of nervous system						1	1		1				1	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease						2	2					1	1	2
Hypertensive disease												1	6	7
Ischaemic heart disease					27	60	87				2	17	64	83
Other forms of heart disease					1	6	7				1	1	9	11
Cerebrovascular disease	1			1	6	37	45					5	48	53
Other circulatory diseases					2	5	7					3	8	11
Influenza						1	1				1			1
Pneumonia	1				2	6	9	3				1	7	11
Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma			2		3	13	18						2	2
Other respiratory diseases						2	2							
Peptic ulcer						2	2						1	1
Appendicitis						1	1							
Intestinal obstruction and hernia						1	1						1	1
Cirrhosis of liver					1		1							
Other digestive diseases												1		1
Nephritis and nephrosis					2	1	3						2	2
Infections of Kidney						1	1						4	4
Other diseases of genito-urinary system						2	2							
Diseases of skin, musculoskeletal system, etc.					1	1	2							
Congenital anomalies of nervous system	1						1							
Congenital anomalies of circulatory system	1	1					2	1						1
Other congenital anomalies	2						2	2				1		3
Birth injury, difficult labour and other anoxic and hypoxic conditions	4						4	3						3
Other causes of peri-natal mortality	1						1							
Senility without mention of psychosis													1	1
Ill-defined and unknown causes														
Motor Vehicle accidents			2			1	3					1		1
Accidents in the home	2					1	3						4	4
Other violence				1		1	2						2	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injury			1	1	1	1	4				1	1		2
TOTALS	13	1	5	6	68	190	283	10	1		10	57	218	296

* Denotes classification of disease totalled under MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS

A. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS

Statistics

Births registered in Burgh during the year were as follows:

Live Births	Still-Births
806	11

Births delivered in Burgh during the year were as follows:

	Live Births	Still-Births
Domiciliary	2	—
Forth Park		
Maternity Hospital.	804	11

In addition 25 live births of Kirkcaldy babies born outwith Burgh were transferred back, the place of birth being:

	Live	Still-Births
Western General Hospital, Edinburgh	4	—
Simpson Memorial Pavilion, Edinburgh	11	—
Edinburgh General Hospital	4	—
Leith Maternity Hospital	1	—
Coatbridge Maternity Hospital	1	—
Bellshill Maternity Hospital	1	—
Craigtoun Maternity Hospital	1	—
Dunfermline Maternity Hospital	1	—
Robroyston Maternity Hospital, Glasgow	1	—
	<hr/> 25	<hr/> —

No maternal deaths occurred during the year.

Eleven still-births were notified, giving a rate of 13 per 1,000 total live and still-births.

Twenty-three infants under one year of age died giving an infant mortality rate of 29 per 1,000 live births compared to 15 deaths in 1970 with an infant mortality rate of 20. The national infant mortality rate was 20.

Twelve of these infants died under one month, giving a neonatal mortality rate of 15 compared to 9 deaths and a rate of 12 in 1970.

Ten of these died under one week and this number combined with the 11 still-births, gives a total of 21 peri-natal deaths and a peri-natal mortality rate of 25.7. Again the numbers are too small to be statistically significant but it is disappointing that in an area where there is now virtually 100% hospital delivery and, in fact, 100% consultant care of these new born babies that the rate should be for the second year in succession worse than the national rate. The national peri-natal mortality rate was 24.5 per 1,000 live and still-births.

PERINATAL DEATH RATES OVER LAST 21 YEARS

Year	Live Births	Still-Births	Deaths under 1 week	Peri-natal Death Rate
1950	896	27	12	42.2
1951	923	22	18	42.3
1952	810	25	18	51.5
1953	840	20	13	38.3
1954	938	32	13	46.4
1955	856	27	11	43.0
1956	901	21	15	39.0
1957	945	20	16	37.2
1958	1,017	35	12	44.6
1959	958	23	8	31.6
1960	874	24	5	32.3
1961	981	25	13	37.7
1962	967	22	12	34.3
1963	942	17	9	27.1
1964	848	18	7	28.9
1965	923	16	8	25.6
1966	875	10	9	21.5
1967	917	9	11	21.6
1968	913	12	10	23.7
1969	869	6	7	14.8
1970	769	17	8	31.8
1971	806	11	10	25.7

Number of Infant Deaths

	M.	F.
Under 1 week	7	3
1 to 2 weeks	1	—
2 to 3 weeks	—	—
3 to 4 weeks	—	1
4 weeks to 3 months	2	2
3 months to 6 months	3	3
6 months to 9 months	—	1
9 months to 12 months	—	—
TOTAL	13	10

Certified Causes of Infant Deaths

	Under 4 weeks		4 weeks to 1 year	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Infections of New Born	—	1	—	—
Prematurity	4	2	—	—
Respiratory Distress Syndrome	2	1	—	—
Occipital Encephalocele	1	—	—	—
Congenital Malformation:				
Circulatory	—	—	1	1
All Others	1	—	1	2
Measles	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1
Cot Deaths:				
Pneumonia	—	—	1	1
Aspiration of Gastric Contents	2	—	—	—
	10	4	3	6

1. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE (Section 22)

Clinic Premises

There are four ad hoc clinics in the Burgh. These are at Loughborough Road, Fair Isle Road, Hayfield Road and Alison Street.

(a) ANTE-NATAL and POST-NATAL CLINICS (whether provided at Child Welfare Centres or at other premises).

These are held at Loughborough Road and Fair Isle Clinics, and staffed by a Consultant Obstetrician and nurses from the Hospital Services and Health Visitors whose duties are largely educational.

Ante-natal

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| (i) Number of clinics at end of year in premises provided by local health authority | 2 | |
| (ii) Total number of women who attended the clinics during the year | 1,850 | (1,330) |
| (iii) Total number of sessions | 203 | (199) |
- (Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

Post Natal Clinic

The Post Natal Clinic is held at Loughborough Road at the same time as a Family Planning Clinic so that women who wish to plan their families can get advice easily and at the right time.

(b) PREPARATION CLASSES

These classes have continued to flourish and the mothers fully realise the value of them.

Numbers attending at each clinic:

Clinic	No. of Sessions		No. of Cases		Total Attendances	
Loughborough Road	48	(49)	107	(108)	383	(381)
Fair Isle	43	(42)	166	(157)	646	(493)

(Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

(c) CHILD WELFARE CLINICS (held at all the clinic premises)

(i) Number of clinics at end of year provided by local health authority . 5

(ii) Total number of children under five years of age who first attended at the clinics during the year and who were born in:

(a) 1971	728	(729)
(b) 1970	730	(809)
(c) 1967-69	457	(347)
(d) 1966	101	(142)

(iii) Total number of attendances during the year made at the clinics by children who were born in:

(a) 1971	6,176	(6,397)
(b) 1970	4,239	(5,149)
(c) 1967-69	3,155	(3,175)
(d) 1966	101	(142)

(iv) Total number of sessions:

Medical Officers	234	(230)
Health Visitors	250	(249)

(Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

(v) At Risk Register:

Number on Register at 1st January, 1971 .	229
Number placed on Register during 1971 .	109
Number removed from Register during 1971 .	52
Number transferred out during 1971 .	16
Number transferred to Handicapped Register during 1971	6
Number deceased	1
Number on Register at 31st December, 1971 .	263

At Risk Register:

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>
1971	51
1970	25
1969	9
1965-68	178
TOTAL	<u>263</u>

Number of children referred to the family doctor or for specialist treatment or advice as a result of a medical examination:

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Number</i>
1971	4
1970	1
1969	2
1965-68	3
TOTAL	<u>10</u>

(vi) Handicapped Register:

Number on Register at 1st January, 1971	. 280
Number placed on Register during 1971	. 46
Number removed from Register during 1971	. 30
Number on Register at 31st December, 1971	. 296
Number on Register Born 1966-71	. 34
Number removed from Register Born 1966-71	2

(d) WELFARE FOODS - Statement of issues during 1971

	Issued during 1971	Recoveries during 1971
National Dried Milk — Tins	1,318	£139.78
Orange Juice Bottles	22,979	1,548.52
Cod Liver Oil Bottles	483	15.60
A & D Tablets Packets	1,719	41.15
A D C Drops Bottles	2,057	71.60

These issues include:

- 594 free issues of National Dried Milk
- 2,332 free issues of Orange Juice
- 171 free issues of Cod Liver Oil
- 73 free issues of A & D Tablets
- 625 free issues of A C D Drops

(e) DENTAL CARE FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND
PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN – AUGUST 1970 – JULY 1971

General Statistics	Age			Maternity
	3 or under	4	Total Ages 0-4	
Routine Dental Inspection . . .	112	59	171	2
With dental defects	40	36	76	2
Offered treatment	40	36	76	2
Accepting treatment	40	36	76	2
Treated by L.A. Dental Officer . .	64	56	120	1
Number made dentally fit	34	41	75	—
Special and emergency cases . . .	—	—	—	—
Special made dentally fit	—	—	—	—

2. MIDWIFERY (Section 23)

As has been commented on in the last Annual Report the number of domiciliary deliveries were becoming so small that it was neither economically viable nor obstetrically advisable to continue to run a domiciliary midwifery service and agreement was reached with the management and staff at Forth Park Maternity Hospital that they should become the Town's agents for the midwifery service.

In effect after they assumed this responsibility on 1st April, 1971 no domiciliary confinements took place in Kirkcaldy during the remainder of the year as the consultant obstetricians were able to persuade the very small number of women who had asked for domiciliary confinement to have their babies in hospital. However as most of the mothers and babies are now discharged within the first week the midwives from the Hospital had to undertake domiciliary post-natal visiting.

This has proved to be an excellent arrangement as the midwives permanently allocated to this duty have built up an excellent relationship with our Health Visitors to the mutual benefit of all these nurses and more importantly to the nursing mothers.

Number of Ante-natal social cases visited	199	(354)
Total number of visits	252	(397)
Number of early discharge cases . .	26	(216)
Total number of visits	137	(1,080)

(Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

3. HEALTH VISITING

In addition to duties in Maternity and Child Welfare the Health Visitors act as school nurses, visit the old and do a considerable amount of health education both in school and with adult groups in clinics and with other organisations out of normal working hours.

All the health visitors are now attached to general practitioners but owing to the variation in size and availability of accommodation at the doctors' surgeries the degree of attachment varies from practice to practice. When the new Health Centre is opened there will be very close attachment between the health visitors and the general practitioners in at least twenty out of twenty-one or twenty-two practices in the Burgh.

Largely because there are ample opportunities due to propinquity of staff rooms there is excellent co-operation and collaboration between the Health and the Social Work department staffs including regular informal inter staff meetings. It will be most interesting to see what will happen to this happy relationship after 1974!

The Health Visitors still have to give a great deal of support to many of the problem families as they have their confidence.

Cases referred to Social Work Department

The number of cases referred formally is as follows:

Psychiatric	1
Handicapped Persons	36
Financial Problems	9
Social Problems	7
Meals on Wheels	1
Care of Children	6
Admission to Homes	22
Adoption	1
Housing Problem	1
Unmarried expectant mothers	15

(1) Number of home visits and cases:

	Number of cases	Number of visits
1. Expectant Mothers	451 (367)	724 (627)
2. Children born in 1970	844 (791)	5,889(6,214)
3. Children born in 1969	1,025 (1079)	5,215(5,122)
4. Children born in 1966-68	2,546 (2,339)	9,735(10,044)
5. School Children	251 (204)	416 (320)
6. (a) Persons aged 65 years and over	744 (389)	2,700(1,304)
(b) Persons included above who were visited at special request of a general practitioner or hospital	*404 (193)	*956 (455)
7. (a) Mental Health: care and after-care	57 (59)	194 (198)
(b) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital	*34 (41)	*122 (149)
8. (a) Other hospital after-care	25 (15)	66 (42)
(b) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital	*19 (12)	*36 (26)
9. Tuberculosis household	66 (38)	162 (89)
10. Other infectious diseases	64 (16)	71 (29)
11. Other†	927 (955)	1,272 (2,896)
12. "No access" visits	2,875(2,435)	5,407(5,129)
TOTAL	9,875(8,687)	31,851(32,014)

* included in totals (a)

	No. of Cases	No. of Visits
† Other visits include:		
Chiropody	242 (82)	256 (87)
Handicapped adults	69 (48)	264 (160)
Home Help Service	13 (447)	14(2,151)
Meals on Wheels	4 (17)	15 (18)
Housing (Medical conditions)	249 (238)	266 (263)
Miscellaneous	350 (123)	457 (217)
Total	927 (955)	1,272(2,896)

(Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

* The ever increasing problem of the ageing population can be seen by the increasing number of visits having to be made to the over 65's many at the request of the General Practitioner.

The very great decrease in the number of visits about Home Helps is due of course to the appointment of a whole time Home Help Supervisor.

(2) Attendances by Health Visitors at Local Health Authority Clinics, Hospital Units, School Health Sessions, etc.:

(i) TOTAL ATTENDANCES BY HEALTH VISITORS

(a) Local Health Authority Clinics	1,068	(1,136)
(b) Hospital Units etc. (including Chest Clinics 40)	182	(222)
(c) School Health Sessions (includes B.C.G. 27)	950	(969)
(d) G. P. Surgeries	554	(557)
(e) Family Planning Clinic	48	(45)

(ii) TYPES OF CLINICS, ETC., ATTENDED

Local Health Authority Clinics

Child Welfare (includes 14 attendances at those sessions by Clinic Nurse)	805	(851)
(Health Education is done at all Clinics)		
Others:		
Relaxation and Mothercraft	87	(88)
Hearing	92	(85)
"Well Woman's"	15	(19)
Eye	20	(20)
Immunisation	49	(52)

(iii) HOSPITAL UNITS ETC.:

Ante-natal	182	(182)
Chest	38	(40)

	<i>Health Visitors</i>	<i>Clinic Nurse</i>	<i>Total</i>	
(iv) SCHOOL HEALTH SESSIONS				
Medical Inspections .	104	168	272	(290)
Formal Health Inspections . . .	40	475	515	(499)
Others:				
Mothercraft . . .	37	—	37	(34)
B.C.G.	4	58	62	(27)
Career's Course .	24	—	24	(30)
Advisory	25	15	40	(18)
Hearing Tests:				
Number Tested . .	—	—	594	(538)

(Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

Work of Medico-Social Worker

Number of cases carried forward from 1970 .	16	
Number of new cases during 1971	664	
	<hr/>	680
Assessment of results: Needs met satisfactorily .	581	
Needs met partially	25	
Needs not met	9	
Results unknown	26	
Patients died	21	
Cases still current	18	
	<hr/>	680

Wider Basic Training

The scheme inaugurated in January, 1965 for the Wider Basic Training in Community Health and Social Services of student nurses from Victoria Hospital has continued satisfactorily. The students during the first two weeks of this training accompany the health visitors on their districts, visit clinics, schools, etc., and during the third week are given practical instruction by the district nurses in the techniques of home nursing. During 1971, 33 students received training.

4. HOME NURSING (Section 25)

With the provision of welfare services such as Home Helps, Meals on Wheels and adaptations of homes increasing numbers of chronic sick are rightly being looked after at home but this not only is changing to some extent the character of the district nurses' work but is also making it more arduous and demanding with more daily visits required as opposed to visits once or twice a week.

Attachment to individual practices has still not been implemented for the reasons which were adduced in the 1968 Annual Report, the main one being lack of facilities at the surgeries.

	Under 5 years	5 years and Under 65 years	65 years and over	Total
No. on Register at beginning of year	1	65	219	285
Number of new cases during year	4	285	383	672
No. of visits during year	103	11,047	26,393	37,543

The Marie Curie Memorial Foundation

Under arrangements made in 1963 with the above Foundation night nursing services were provided during the year for two terminal cases suffering from carcinoma, at a total cost of £29.38.

5. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26)

At the end of 1968 the schedule of recommended times for immunising babies and young children was rationalised so that without too much inconvenience to the mothers and babies, the babies would be given proper protection against infectious disease. The new schedule extended the intervals between injections particularly between the second and third diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus inoculation which is now six months instead of one. By 1970 this new timetable was working smoothly.

During the year another change took place in the schedule of immunisation and vaccination when in July on advice from the Home and Health Department routine smallpox vaccination was discontinued thus ending an epoch which began officially some 120 years ago.

The risk of contracting Smallpox in this country is now very very small and there is a slightly greater risk of untoward severe reactions and even of death from vaccination. However certain categories are still at risk of getting smallpox, e.g. Doctors and nurses who may even be in contact with a case of smallpox for a few days before the diagnosis is confirmed and certain other persons such as Customs inspectors boarding ships from foreign ports and vaccination of such as the above mentioned will continue.

Meantime the other immunisation and vaccination programmes against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Measles, German Measles, Tuberculosis and Poliomyelitis continue to run smoothly.

Smallpox

During the year up to July 1971 four hundred and eighty-four primary vaccinations were performed amongst the child population.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Three thousand, five hundred and fifty-eight children born since 1st January, 1967, have completed immunisation against Diphtheria out of a total of 4,274 born during these years. This represents over 83·2% of the population at risk under the age of five and this is reasonably satisfactory. The actual figure is probably even higher but movement of families is now such a frequent occurrence that many of the records of people coming into the Burgh or leaving get lost between local health authorities.

Whooping Cough

As more than 90% of those immunised against Diphtheria have in fact had the triple antigen of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus the immunisation rate against Whooping Cough is also satisfactory.

Tetanus

Tetanus immunisation is included now with Diphtheria, or with Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, so that there are very few young children who have not been satisfactorily immunised against Tetanus and who therefore only need, in face of risk to Tetanus from injury, a booster dose.

Year of Birth	Vaccination	
	Primary	Maintenance
1969	—	1
1968	—	2
1967	—	1
1966	—	1
1965 or earlier	37	40
TOTAL	37	45

Poliomyelitis

The response to immunisation against Poliomyelitis continues to be very good and in fact runs almost parallel with the response to the triple vaccine.

Measles

Whilst there is still not quite such an enthusiastic response amongst mothers to have their children vaccinated against measles the situation continues to improve.

Seven hundred and seventy-four children mostly between one and two years of age were vaccinated in 1971 compared to 595 in 1970 bringing the total known number so vaccinated under 7 years of age to 3,262 which is about 53% of the population under that age. As there was quite a big epidemic of measles during the year as well, most of those under 7 should be immune naturally or by virtue of vaccination.

Six children were notified as suffering from measles subsequent to their being immunised against the disease.

Rubella (German Measles)

Vaccination against German Measles is offered to girls between the ages of 11 and 14. The purpose of this procedure is to ensure that they are given protection against rubella by vaccination before reaching child-bearing age, because of the known association of certain foetal abnormalities with rubella infection in pregnancy.

GERMAN MEASLES
Number Vaccinated During the Year

Year of Birth	Number Vaccinated
Pre 1957	2
1957	53
1958	467
1959	459
1960	6
TOTAL	987

B.C.G. Vaccination

The exact figures for the consent rate to B.C.G. Vaccination is not known. All pupils at the 13-year old medical examination are checked to see if they have had the Tuberculin Test and/or B.C.G. vaccination and very few cases are found where the test has not been applied. These cases are usually incomers to the area or pupils who have been absent when consent cards were issued. Any such cases found are asked to get a consent card signed for the next campaign.

Rectors, headmasters and clerical staff in schools have given complete co-operation.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

NUMBERS RECEIVING FULL PRIMARY COURSE OF DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

YEAR OF BIRTH

Total Live Births	YEAR OF IMMUNISATION																Total
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	
	901	945	1,017	958	874	981	967	942	848	923	875	917	913	869	769	806	
1956	97																97
1957	209	101															310
1958	34	259	112														405
1959	15	28	284	126													453
1960	8	13	39	241	166												467
1961	84	18	23	48	399	338											910
1962	54	43	8	14	35	421	267										842
1963	4	68	27	6	11	46	414	363									939
1964	2	5	78	30	11	13	46	384	348								917
1965		1		43	22	8	11	25	378	398							886
1966						3	8	22	17	372	385						807
1967					1		5	15	15	22	378	413					849
1968							1	4	6	3	18	387	379				798
1969							10	27	10		4	5	336	9			401
1970								2	21	7	7	9	88	629	7		770
1971										28		6	31	106	574	5	750
TOTAL	507	536	571	508	645	829	762	842	795	830	792	820	834	744	581	5	10,601

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION - PRIMARY COURSE
YEAR OF BIRTH

YEAR OF VACCINATION														YEAR OF BIRTH														All Ages
1944 1959		1945 1960		1946 1961		1947 1962		1963		1964		1965		1966		1967		1968		1969		1970		1971		All Ages		
1959	3,739																								3,739			
1960		1,111																							1,111			
1961		1,051	163																						1,214			
1962		837	663	156																					1,656			
1963		141	38	535	154																				868			
1964		105	26	92	582	147																			952			
1965		73	14	39	55	568	180																		929			
1966		64	31	25	45	72	567	188																	992			
1967		13	15	13	17	19	31	548	256																912			
1968		5	1	12	5	9	15	43	547	203															840			
1969				5	4	8	1	4	14	497	9														542			
1970					2	10	7	7	8	101	620	6													761			
1971						9	12	3	4	17	86	580	7												718			
TOTAL	3,739	3,400	951	877	864	842	813	793	829	818	715	586	7												15,234			

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Number of children who received courses of immunisation in year.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria	Tetanus	Pertussis	Diphtheria and Pertussis	Diphtheria and Tetanus	Diphtheria Pertussis and Tetanus	
1971	—	—	—	—	—	5	PRIMARY
1970	—	—	—	—	4	570	
1969	—	—	—	—	—	106	
1968	—	—	—	—	—	31	
1967	—	—	—	—	2	4	
1966	3	—	—	—	—	—	
1965 or earlier	7	37	—	—	17	1	
TOTAL	10	37	—	—	23	717	
1971	—	—	—	—	—	—	BOOSTERS
1970	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1969	—	1	—	—	—	1	
1968	—	2	—	—	—	—	
1967	—	1	—	—	2	1	
1966	1	1	—	—	372	5	
1965 or earlier	6	40	—	—	331	—	
TOTAL	7	45	—	—	705	7	

Poliomyelitis

Number of booster doses during 1971.

Year of Birth	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962 and earlier	TOTAL
Number given Booster Dose	4	421	128	12	3	10	578

Measles Vaccination

Year of Birth	Number vaccinated during 1971
1971	4
1970	316
1969	232
1968	117
1967	42
1966	25
1965 or earlier	38
TOTAL	774

B.C.G. Vaccination

Group	Tuberculin Tested		Negative Re-actors		Vaccinated during 1971	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Nurses	5	113	1	29	1	28
2. Medical Students	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Contacts	30	25	29	24	25	21
4. Special Groups not included in (1) to (3) above:						
(a) School Leavers	625	585	599	572	599	572
5. Others: Laboratory Staff	3	8	—	5	—	5
TOTAL	663	731	629	630	625	626

Number of Contacts Tuberculin Tested under the B.C.G. Vaccination Scheme:

Age Group	Results				Totals		Given B.C.G.	
	Negative		Positive					
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	3	2	—	—	3	2	3	2
1 and under 5 years	16	10	—	—	16	10	12	8
5 and under 10 years	6	11	—	—	6	11	6	11
10 and under 15 years	4	1	1	—	5	1	4	—
15 and under 20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 years and over	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Total Tests Performed	29	24	1	1	30	25	25	21

6. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

(Section 27)

Health Education

Health education is continually given by all the members of the Health Department team, doctors, health visitors, sanitary inspectors, nurses and midwives in their day-to-day contact with the members of the public but in addition a great deal is done by individuals giving talks to groups of outside organisations, mothers' clubs and so on, and every opportunity is taken to project health by poster, exhibit and other means of publicity. The health visitors instruct classes in the Secondary Schools in the formal careers' course and during the year 24 sessions were held.

	<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Part-time</i>
Number of staff devoting whole time to Health Education	—	—
Number of School Sessions	61	

Tuberculosis

The Health visitors made 162 visits to households where there were notified cases of tuberculosis to advise them in general hygiene, care of the patient, diet, and other aspects of their welfare. One Health visitor acts as liaison officer with the Chest Physician.

Chiropody

This is a particularly essential service to the elderly and the handicapped as foot deformities and discomforts can reduce their activities and this tends to cause deterioration in their general health. In addition to the domiciliary service the Local Authority chiropodist visits Abden and Denend Homes once a month.

Cases and Treatment

	Local Authority Chiropodist		Private Chiropodists (2)	
No. of cases treated in own home .	431	(402)	5	(4)
No. of cases treated at surgery .	473	(368)	288	(260)
No. of cases treated in Abden Home	70	(65)	—	—
No. of cases treated in Denend Home	38	(32)	—	—
Total No. of cases treated . .	1,012	(867)	293	(264)
No. of treatments in own home .	2,329	(2,184)	10	(7)
No. of treatments in surgery .	2,695	(1,763)	1,839	(1,395)
No. of treatments at Abden Home .	410	(421)	—	—
No. of treatments at Denend Home	172	(222)	—	—
Total No. of treatments . . .	5,606	(4,590)	1,849	(1,402)

Amount of fees recovered during the year £708·80 (£475·25)

Amount of fees paid to private chiropodists during
the year £1,398·65 (£969·10)

(Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

Rehousing

257 applications for rehousing for medical reasons were received during the year.

One hundred and thirteen families were rehoused who had been recommended for health reasons. Sixty-eight of these had been rehoused within a year of getting the recommendation, twenty-seven within two years and the remaining thirteen had waited more than two years but some of these had only marginal health reasons for rehousing.

Provision of Nursing Equipment

Nursing equipment is loaned in appropriate circumstances to help nursing of invalids in the home. This equipment is held by the District Nurses and is also obtainable from the department.

During the year the total number of articles of medical equipment on loan from the department was 1,049, (1,146 in 1970).

Diagnostic Clinic

This Clinic is held at Fair Isle Clinic weekly, morning one week and evening the alternate week. It is open to all women in the area but the propaganda is aimed primarily at those at greatest risk, that is, those who had married early or had large families, or lived in poor housing, and the health visitor made special efforts to interest mothers who came into these categories.

In addition to the gynaecological examination simple blood tests for anaemia and urine testing for sugar are done, breasts are examined, and the patient is weighed.

Number of women who attended the clinic during 1971	204	(163)
Number of satisfactory cervical smears	198	(162)
Number of suspicious smears or suspicious symptoms on examination	5	(1)
Number not smeared for various reasons	1	(—)

(Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

Five women satisfactorily smeared were referred for gynaecological defects, mainly minor in nature.

Two women died of cancer of the cervix uteri during the year. This is a disease for which there are reliable methods of treating successfully if diagnosed early but women seem very apathetic to the idea of attending special clinics for screening to detect the early stages of this disease.

Family Planning

The Family Planning Services are provided for the Burgh by the Family Planning Association who use the local authority clinic at Loughborough Road for two sessions each week.

During the year the Burgh accepted the principle that everyone was entitled to free advice but only those who had medical or medico-social reasons should get free treatment. To implement this policy the Burgh agreed to pay the Family Planning Association for each person who availed themselves of the service for advice and also to pay for the treatment for those with medical reasons.

The service has grown rapidly over the last two or three years. During 1971 there was 1,331 attendances.

7. HOME HELP SERVICE (Section 28)

	HOME HELP TO HOUSEHOLDERS FOR PERSONS					TOTAL
	Aged 65 or over on first visit in 1971	Aged under 65 on first visit				
		Chronic Sick	Mentally Dis- ordered	Maternity	Others	
Number of Cases	406 (397)	— (21)	— (—)	— (—)	54 (44)	460 (462)

(Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

No. of part-time home helps in service on 31/12/70	198
No. of part-time home helps in service on 31/12/71	181
No. of home helps recruited during the year	37
No. of home helps who left the service during the year	54
No. of hours of service given during the year	89,729

8. WORK DONE UNDER THE NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1938

No Nursing Homes operate in the Burgh.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notification of Infectious Diseases 1971

(Figures in brackets from 1970 Annual Report)

Nature of Disease	No. of Cases Notified	Removed to Hospital	Not Removed to Hospital
Chickenpox	182 (39)	3	179
Measles	502 (186)	12	490
Scarlet Fever	21 (8)	—	21
Infective Hepatitis	8 (27)	3	5
Pneumonia (Acute Primary)	23 (22)	23	—
Pneumonia (Acute Influenzal)	1 (7)	1	—
Dysentery	88 (84)	5	83
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	12 (7)	12	—
Erysipelas	1 (4)	—	1
Food Poisoning	559 (4)	9	550
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1 (—)	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	— (1)	—	—
Rubella	— (1)	—	—
Whooping Cough	29 (17)	7	22
TOTAL	1,427 (407)	76	1,351

NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES OVER THE LAST 21 YEARS

	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Chickenpox*	182	39	87	161	74	101	326	127	76	325	292	174	108	478	81	365	66	342	265	366	337
Measles	502	186	78	62	372	333	328	183	347	361	189	555	252	415	199	324	720	231	205	541	933
Scarlet Fever	21	8	23	59	26	40	15	40	30	19	14	40	136	27	10	42	43	82	160	196	84
Infective Hepatitis†	8	27	25	86	27	30	10	—	—	—	45	—	24	8	21	50	35	75	21	28	30
Pneumonia, acute primary	23	22	30	16	10	25	35	33	47	49	52	61	86	77	103	86	60	57	79	65	66
Pneumonia, acute influenzal	1	7	—	1	—	1	1	—	7	—	5	—	6	8	12	15	3	11	9	1	10
German Measles*	—	1	—	3	105	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	10	1	—	—	7	—
Dysentery	88	84	154	262	82	108	264	60	113	108	95	142	128	195	77	180	177	72	32	10	19
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	12	7	1	3	2	4	—	3	—	10	4	3	10	1	4	2	2	2	6	5	8
Erysipelas	1	4	3	4	6	4	3	8	6	4	8	4	9	8	12	18	23	25	30	26	27
Whooping Cough	29	17	—	5	123	7	2	24	54	2	9	134	26	7	258	240	16	220	374	279	391
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	2	1	—	18	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	4	5	4	2	1	3	22	2	4	7	9	5	2
Food Poisoning	559	4	—	—	5	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	21	14	2	4	18
Para-Typhoid B.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	9	—	—	—	—	—
Brucellosis*	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	5	2	1	—	—	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	1	—	1	2	7

* These infectious diseases are not strictly speaking notifiable.

† These infectious diseases only became officially notifiable in October, 1968.

Measles

502 cases were notified in 1971 as compared to 186 in 1970.

This epidemic which had continued from the last month or so of 1970 was the first really large one for some 5 years. It will be interesting in view of the steady increase of young children being immunised against this disease to see the pattern in future but it is a matter of comment that in this large number of affected children only 6 of them had been immunised against measles.

The value of immunisation is, that if a sufficiently high percentage of the population has been immunised, epidemics do not occur.

Theoretically the situation in Kirkcaldy now should be that with better than 50% of all young children being immunised plus those already immunised and those with natural immunity because they have had the disease, the immunological state of the child population against measles should be such that for several years to come no epidemic should occur, sporadic cases certainly will, unless we allow this happy situation to deteriorate because of failure to immunise all the younger children coming along.

Dysentery

Eighty-six cases of dysentery were notified during the year as compared to 84 in 1970.

Twelve were proven bacteriologically and the town has been fortunate over the last few years in that no major outbreaks of Dysentery have occurred.

Food Poisoning

Five hundred and fifty-nine cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. 220 of these were either known to be affected by *Salmonella* Typhimurium phage type U21 or contacts of such cases even if not proven positive themselves. The outbreak was spread over 18 weeks but most of those affected seemed to have been affected between 24th May 1971 and 31st July 1971.

Intensive questioning of victims and investigations elsewhere failed to prove conclusively the source of the infection but circumstantial evidence pointed quite clearly to one particular source and to the vehicle being meat or cooked meat products. There was no question of the large outbreak being due solely to one particular carcase or output of cooked meats or such like and presumably after the first batch of cases some individual or individuals continued to contaminate meat products resulting in the further cases over the period.

Because of lack of clear proof it was difficult for the department to be too rigorous in its demands but very stringent measures and precautions were taken at the presumptive source with the utmost co-operation on the part of the manager and staff of the suspect firm.

Infective Hepatitis

Eight cases of infective hepatitis were notified in 1971 compared to 27 in 1970. Two were children and six were adults. The incubation period of this disease is rather long and makes prevention very difficult.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Nine cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1971 as compared with eleven for the previous year. Eight cases were later confirmed as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis

One case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was notified during 1971 as compared with three cases in the previous year.

The number of persons resident in the Burgh at 31st December, 1971, who remain under supervision because of tuberculosis is:

Pulmonary	64
Non-Pulmonary	6
	<hr/>
TOTAL	70
	<hr/>

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis Site of Disease	Males	Females	Total
Abdominal	1	—	1
Miliary	—	—	—
Superficial Glands	—	—	—
Genito-Urinary	—	—	—
Other Organs	—	—	—
Total	1	—	1

Tuberculosis

	Age Period	No. of cases notified		No. of notified cases actually confirmed		No. of notified cases receiving Sanatorium treatment		No. of Deaths of notified cases		Total Deaths	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
PULMONARY	Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15 to 25 years	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	35 to 45 years	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
	45 to 55 years	2	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
	55 to 65 years	4	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
	65 upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NON-PULMONARY	Totals	6	2	6	2	6	2	—	—	—	—
	Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	45 to 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	65 upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Consultant at the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Cameron, which is the Infectious Diseases Hospital for the area, keeps us fully informed of all infectious disease cases admitted from the Burgh. The Laboratory at Victoria Hospital is very co-operative and carries out without demur all investigations which we request. They also keep us well informed of all positive results of specimens of infectious diseases taken by the general practitioners.

The liaison and co-operation between the department and the general practitioners is a little more variable and in some aspects not quite so satisfactory, the main difficulty being delay in notification and, in some instances, failure to notify.

C. PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Thirty-one ships from foreign ports entered Kirkcaldy Harbour during 1971 and free pratique was granted in all cases.

D. DISABLED DRIVERS

During the year 68 badges were issued to Disabled Drivers exempting them from the Royal Burgh of Kirkcaldy (Traffic Regulations) Experimental Order, 1965.

E. MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

As from 2nd February, 1970, drivers of vehicles of over 3 tons unladen weight require a Heavy Goods Vehicle Licence. The application must be supported by a medical certificate. Applicants are not entitled to this examination under the provisions of the National Health Service Act and the Health Department has undertaken to examine Local Authority drivers. During the year fifteen examinations were carried out.

The number of examinations for superannuation purposes done by this department throughout the year totalled 48. In addition one medical examination was carried out on our behalf by outside authorities.

F. FIFE MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCIL

Since the constitution of the Council in 1960 this department has acted as the postal and telephonic contact between counsellors and enquirers. Outwith normal consulting hours counsellors can be put in touch through this department with enquirers urgently in need of advice.

G. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Fife County Council is the education authority for the Burgh but the school health service is delegated to our health department and two medical officers devote approximately fifty per cent of their time to this work.

The health visitors take a very active part in the secondary schools in the vocational training classes and are accepted in these schools as part-time teachers.

B.C.G. is now offered to entrants to secondary schools instead of to thirteen year olds.

Because of the shortage of consultant ophthalmologists it has been necessary to refer pupils with simple refractive errors to their family doctors for onward referrals to opticians but it is still possible to have all pupils with strabismus referred to the consultant.

Incidental physical disease of children, such as skin lesions, otorrhoeas and so on, are now less common but on the other hand more and more children appear to require examination and treatment for emotional and behaviour problems.

I would like to thank the headmasters and teachers of all the schools for their help and co-operation.

A brief summary relating to the school year August 1970/71 is given herewith:

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of parents present at medical inspection:			
(a) with entrant infants	278	354	632
(b) with others (second age group)	28	37	65
Number of examinations:			
Entrants	369	385	754
Second age group	49	54	103
Third age group	504	506	1,010
Fourth age group	103	26	129
Re-examinations	46	22	68
Special Examinations	185	185	370
Vision Testing (6-7 years)	509	483	992
,, ,, (9 years)	451	488	939
,, ,, (11 years)	37	42	79
	<u>2,253</u>	<u>2,191</u>	<u>4,444</u>

Number of children examined by

School Nurse	17,035
Clean	16,553
Nits or head vermin	482
Special Clinics - Eye	20

NURSES' HYGIENE INSPECTIONS YEAR 1970 - 1971

Condition	School Health Service			Nursery Class		Treatment by Nurse		
	1	2		3	4	At Home New Cases	In Clinics New Cases	Total attendance
	No. of new cases with defect	No. of cases in Col. 1 followed-up by home visits		No. of cases in Col. 3 followed-up by home visits				
Head Vermin	482	399		3	—	—	1	1
Body Vermin	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Ringworm (Scalp)	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Scabies	84	76		—	—	3	5	8
Uncleanliness or Neglect	17	12		—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo contagiosa	67	44		—	—	—	4	4
Other Skin Conditions	169	12		1	—	—	—	—
Otorrhoea	11	1		—	—	—	—	—
Eye Disease (external)	47	31		1	—	—	1	1
Ear Cases	28	11		—	—	—	—	—
Nose and Throat Cases	12	3		—	—	—	—	—
Other Cases	217	176		—	—	—	—	—
Cuts and bruises	128	—		—	—	—	—	—
Septic conditions	59	14		—	—	—	—	—
(Accidents)	17	8		1	—	—	—	—
(Advisory Cases)	99	30		6	6	—	6	6
TOTAL	1,437	817		12	6	3	17	20

Total No. of children seen at inspection

17,035

Total No. Re-inspected (i.e., children with defect at a previous inspection)

1,206

No school leavers were notified by the School Medical Officer to the Education Authority under Section 66 of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1966.

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Forms Y.9 issued in 1971/72	58	6	64
Bronchitis	1	—	1
Asthma	8	2	10
Hay Fever	2	—	2
Colour Blindness	35	—	35
Eczema	1	—	1
Defective Hearing	4	1	5
Cerebral Palsy	1	—	1
Weak Eyesight	2	1	3
Artificial Left Eye	—	1	1
Spinal	1	—	1
Deformity of Foot	1	—	1
Deformity of Fingers	2	1	3
Forms Y10 issued in 1971/72	—	1	1

Dental Inspection and Treatment 1st August 1970, to 31st July, 1971

Section 1—GENERAL STATISTICS

Age	Routine Dental Inspection	With Dental Defects	Accepting Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit	Special and Emergency Cases
—5	107	66	22	22	9	—
5	1,125	634	215	243	153	6
6	723	353	130	193	155	12
7	802	447	128	215	171	12
8	701	348	98	190	146	13
9	798	403	102	169	133	9
10	877	452	88	148	110	6
11	804	315	80	145	127	8
12	1,057	435	115	157	115	6
13	975	428	77	107	87	1
14	978	394	49	69	51	4
15	442	195	14	31	31	2
16	59	17	2	6	7	—
17	—	—	—	2	3	1
TOTALS	9,448	4,487	1,120	1,697	1,298	80

Attendances for Treatment 5 to 17 years = 9,341

Section II—DETAILS OF TREATMENT

	Routine	Special and Emergency	Total
(a) Fillings:			
(i) Permanent teeth	2,269	—	2,269
(ii) Deciduous teeth	985	—	985
(b) Extractions (excluding orthodontic)			
(i) Permanent teeth	106	—	106
(ii) Deciduous teeth	596	—	596
General Anaesthetics	—	—	—
Other operations – Permanent teeth	1,105	—	1,105
– Deciduous teeth	1,262	—	1,262
Dentures – Partial	5	—	5
Full	—	—	—
Radiographs – No. of exposures Intra-oral	21	—	21
(Excluding orthodontics)			
,, – Extra-Oral	12	—	12

Section III—ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT

No. of cases continued from previous year			24
New cases			20
Cases completed			9
Cases discontinued			8
Attendances for treatment			398
No. of consultations with R.H.B. orthodontist			45
	R.H.B. Con- sul- tant	School Dental Officer	Total
No. of diagnostic examinations	20	—	20
Not followed by treatment	—	—	—
No. of cases			
with removable appliances	19	—	19
with fixed appliances	1	—	1
No. of extractions (non-carious)			
(i) Permanent teeth		57	57
(ii) Deciduous teeth		29	29
Repairs to orthodontic appliances	—	4	4
Radiographs – No. of exposures			
(a) Intra-oral	28	—	28
(b) Extra-oral	68	—	68

Section IV—DENTAL STAFF

	Dental Surgeons	Dental Hygienists	Surgery Assistants
Establishment of posts agreed by Council	3		3
No. in post at 31/7/71 – Wholetime	2		2
Part-time	1		1
Whole-time equivalent of part-time	$\frac{1}{3}$		$\frac{1}{3}$
Total whole-time equivalent	$2\frac{1}{3}$		$2\frac{1}{3}$
Total half-days worked during year ended 31/7/71:			
(a) in School Health Service	920		
(b) in Maternity and Child Welfare Service	59		

Section V—ALLOCATION OF TIME

	Dental Surgeons
Total actual half-days	1,031
Estimated number of half-days occupied in Inspection	113
Dental Health Education	—
Treatment (other than orthodontics)	
School	782
Orthodontic treatment	24
Treatment – M. & C.W.	59
Administration (approx.)	20
Absence due to illness	4
Miscellaneous	29
TOTAL	1,031

APPENDIX **FACTORIES ACT, 1961**

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	4	18	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority	292	129	8	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (including out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	292	129	8	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found – (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”).

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	5	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—

Part VIII of the Act
OUTWORK
(Section 133 and 134)
Nil

DEPARTMENT OF SANITARY AND CLEANSING,
TOWN HOUSE,
KIRKCALDY.

November, 1972

To the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCOTLAND AND THE PRO-
VOST, MAGISTRATES AND COUNCILLORS OF THE ROYAL
BURGH OF KIRKCALDY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1971 on the general sanitary conditions of the Burgh and the work performed by the Sanitary and Cleansing Departments during the year.

This report has been compiled in accordance with the terms of the Scottish Home and Health Department Circular No. LHAS 18/1971.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. IRVINE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

GENERAL STATISTICS

Rateable Value of Burgh at 16th May, 1971	£2,996,062
Population estimated 30th June, 1971	50,091
Area of Burgh in Acres	5,738
Mileage of Streets	94.86
Number of Inhabited Houses	17,503

STAFF

<i>Sanitary Inspector</i>	JOHN H. IRVINE, M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.C.
<i>Depute Sanitary Inspector</i>	ROBERT EASSON
<i>Assistant Sanitary Inspectors</i>	JOSEPH OATES, A.R.S.H. JAMES T. GOOD MICHAEL WALLACE, M.R.S.H. ALLAN R. MACPHEE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. BRIAN DONNET, M.R.S.H.
<i>Apprentice Sanitary Inspectors</i>	ANDREW ROBERTSON JOHN ADAMS

HOUSING

1. General Progress

Local authority house completions were back at a satisfactory level of 327 being double the number completed the previous year. It was also a good year for house building in the private sector with 153 houses completed, only 13 short of the previous highest figure for private building in the post war years which was achieved in 1965.

No houses were built by the local authority for police or fire service purposes during the year.

The houses completed by the local authority were located as follows:

Dysart Phase III, Area I	40
Sinclairtown	258
Bridgeton Phase III	21
Myrtle Crescent	8

During the year 25 houses were closed in terms of Section 15, Housing (Scotland) Act, 1966, of these 15 were subjects of Demolition Orders and 10 subjects of Closing Orders. In addition the Council passed a Resolution declaring Area No. 1 East and West Smeaton Street, containing 243 houses, to be a Housing Treatment Area in terms of Section 4 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1969, to be dealt with by demolition of all the buildings in the area.

A further 130 houses were closed voluntarily by the owners and 99 houses were closed in the Sinclairtown Redevelopment Area.

A total of 308 condemned houses were demolished during the year, some 80 of these were in properties where the local authority were enforcing the Demolition Order due to default by private owners.

Of the new houses completed by the Council 133 were 2 apartments 163 were 3 apartments and 31 were 4 apartments. Allocated to these houses were 172 families from unfit or voluntarily closed houses, 5 from overcrowded houses, 34 were health cases, 37 were homeless, and 79 were decants, transfers of priority lets.

In the re-letting of existing Council houses 150 tenants came from unfit or closed houses, 26 from overcrowded houses, 58 were health cases, 190 were homeless or young families living in sub-let rooms, and 195 were decants, transfers or priority lets – a total of 619 re-lets.

The Burgh Factor's waiting list for houses showed a further reduction from 1,056 at the beginning of the year to 772 at the end of the year. This reduction is mainly due to the fact that towards the end of the year the Burgh Factor reviewed his waiting list resulting in some 300 names being removed from the list. At the end of the year the composition of the waiting list was as follows: Homeless 334, of whom 31 have two or more children; 64 health cases; 111 overcrowded families, 2 families in

houses classified as unfit; 197 in sub-standard accommodation, and 64 long term applicants. There are also 116 elderly applicants and 570 applicants in houses up to the tolerable standard. It is of interest to note that there were 502 marriages in the town during the year and a percentage of these couples will be applicants for Council houses.

It is the constant aim of the Council to reduce the number of families forced to live in sub-standard housing accommodation, and in my view the tolerable standard laid down in Section 2(2) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1969, has an important effect not only on the closure of houses, but also the standard to which a house can be improved. An opportunity was taken by the Housing Committee during a visit by The Hon. George Younger, M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Scottish Office, to ask the Minister to indicate under what circumstances the Secretary of State would be prepared to raise the tolerable standard for the Burgh of Kirkcaldy. Mr. Younger said that if Kirkcaldy could say that they had exhausted the possibility of having to deal with houses which were below the present tolerable standard and that the raising of the standard was necessary, the Secretary of State would certainly be prepared to consider an application to raise the standard for the area.

It would seem in the light of this reply that a number of years must elapse before Kirkcaldy will be in a position to make representations to raise the tolerable standard.

The Housing Act, 1971, became operative on 5th August, 1971 and this had the effect of increasing housing improvement grants to 75% of the cost of the works subject to a maximum of £1,800 for discretionary grants and £300 for standard grants providing the work is completed by 23rd June, 1973. This date has subsequently been extended to 23rd June, 1974. As a result of this there is an increasing interest in improvement of houses, and the Council held a six day exhibition on the improvement of private property from 18th to 23rd January, 1972 which was very well attended by the public and a considerable number of enquiries were received. If there is a big increase in this type of work, the building resources of the district will be severely stretched to meet the demand to complete the works by June, 1974.

Two hundred visits were made relating to enquiries for housing improvement grants and as a result 31 Discretionary Grants and 39 Standard Grants were approved.

A Block of four houses at 51-57 East Quality Street modernised by the local authority were let during the year, also a block of seven houses forming part of Dysart Redevelopment Phase III, Area 1.

Sixty-one housing reports were prepared in relation to S.D.A.A. or Housing Act loan enquiries and as a result 27 loans were granted.

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received, while four qualification certificates were granted.

A total of 128 plans for housing improvements or alterations were reported on in relation to plans submitted to the Burgh Engineer in

terms of the Building Regulations. Three hundred and seventy-two visits were made by Inspectors to houses for various purposes under the Housing Acts.

2. Milk and Dairies

Three registered dairy farms within the Burgh remained in production throughout the year. The total average daily output of milk from these farms was 585 gallons per day, all of which was consigned to the Scottish Milk Marketing Board Creamery at Glenrothes. One beef rearing farm produces a small amount of milk for household purposes only and for feeding to calves.

The general cleanliness of premises and equipment was found to be satisfactory.

In 1971 an existing dairy premises which previously only cooled and bottled milk in the plant, converted the plant and installed a pasteurisation system. This premises after initial teething troubles, settled down to a satisfactory routine which produced good sample results.

Details of dairy premises registered and licensed in 1971 were as follows:

	<i>Number</i>
Dairy Byres capable of housing 214 cows	3
Milk retailers retailing within the Burgh	7
Retail shops selling bottled, cartoned or sachet milk .	84
Producers and wholesalers who do not sell by retail .	4

3. Milk (Special Designations) Orders

The following licences were in operation in the Burgh during 1971:

	<i>Number</i>
Dealers licensed to sell standard milk (wholesale only).	1
Producers licensed to produce standard milk	3
Dealers licensed to sell premium milk	1
Dealers licensed to sell pasteurised milk	51
Dealers licensed to sell standard milk	28
Dealers licensed to sell U.H.T. milk	13
Pasteurisers licensed	2

In addition retailers outwith the Burgh held the following licences:

Supplementary licences to sell Premium Milk	3
Supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised Milk . . .	1
Supplementary licences to sell Standard Milk	2
Supplementary licences to sell Sterilised Milk	1

For the first time the burgh supplied licences permitting sale of milk from mobile shops as follows:

	<i>Number</i>
Dealers Supplementary Pasteurised	7

To ensure compliance with the prescribed tests the undernoted milks were submitted to the Fife District Laboratory, Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy:

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Conformed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
U.H.T. Milk	6	6	—
Premium Milk	6	1	5
Standard Milk	17	12	5
Pasteurised Milk	54	45	8
TOTAL	83	64	19

One other sample was taken. This sample was accidentally destroyed at the Laboratory.

The breakdown of premises from which samples were taken are as follows:

Dairy	13
Shops	49
Retail vans	14
Schools	4
Dispensing Machines	2
Food complaint	1

Of the samples that failed, the grades that failed and sources of samples are as follows:

Premium	5	— from vans
Standard	5	— 1 sample was registered as a complaint
		4 samples were from shops
Pasteurised	9	— 1 sample was from a van
		8 samples were from shops

Nineteen milk samples did not conform to the prescribed tests. High bacterial counts and coliform organisms were found in five samples; five samples had high colony counts; nine samples had coliform organisms present.

There were three phosphatase test failures during 1971. Two of these samples were produced locally and occurred as the result of teething problems during the inception of a new pasteurisation plant. A faulty temperature control unit resulted in the milk not attaining the required temperature during the period of heat treatment. This defect was ultimately traced and rectified and to date no further problems have arisen.

The third phosphatase test failure occurred in a sample of milk taken from a local supermarket. The milk source was from a dairy in the West of Scotland. On being informed of the failure of the sample, the supermarket immediately discontinued the supply from that dairy.

A problem arose as a result of unsatisfactory results of samples from a producer of premium milk. These results were passed to the approp-

riate officers of Fife County Council for their attention. Subsequently a fault was traced to the cooling system and storage facilities of this producer. Further samples then proved to be satisfactory.

The remaining milk samples which failed were from shops and were the result of poor stock rotation and incorrect use of storage facilities required in every case in terms of the granting of a licence to sell milk.

Pasteurisers

This year a local producer cancelled his standard licence and installed a pasteurising plant in his premises. After initial teething problems had been resolved this plant subsequently functioned satisfactorily. The daily output from this plant was 650 gallons.

A local pasteurisation plant closed down this year and the firm concentrated their production at their other plant in the town. This pasteurisation plant produced an output of 2,500 gallons daily.

Because of the centralisation of pasteurisation plants in the East of Scotland and build up of milk sales in shops and supermarkets there is an increasing time lag between date of milk production and the date it is consumed by the customer. I am concerned at a possible deterioration in quality unless proper cold storage conditions and stock rotation is observed.

4. Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956

A total of 201 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst in Dundee. This total consisted of 48 formal samples of which 4 were reported as non-genuine and 154 informal samples, 17 of which were reported as non-genuine. Observations of the Public Analyst are included on these samples which received adverse reports.

	<i>Number Examined</i>	<i>Not Genuine</i>
Aerated Water	5	—
Baby Food	1	—
Baking Powder	3	—
Baking Confectionery	1	—
Beer	2	—
Brandy	3	—
Bread	1	—
Butter	5	1
Cheese	7	2
Coffee	3	—
Colouring and Flavouring	3	—
Confectionery	3	—
Cooking Fats and Oils	5	—
Cut Mixed Peel	2	—
Fish and Fish Products	7	—
Flour	4	—
Fruit and Dried Fruit	8	—

Fruit Juices and Squashes	2	1
Gin	3	1
Ice Cream	8	4
Jams, Jellies and Curds	6	2
Margarine	4	—
Meat Pastes	2	1
Meat Products	16	2
Medicinals	3	—
Milk	22	2
Milk (skimmed/dried)	3	—
Mince	12	—
Rum	6	1
Sauces, Pickles	5	—
Sausages	11	2
Soups	3	1
Spices, Condiments	7	—
Tea	2	—
Vegetables	1	—
Vodka	3	—
Whisky	12	—
Wine	4	1
Yoghurt	1	—
Miscellaneous	2	—
	<hr/> 201	<hr/> 21

In addition 24 informal samples were taken and these were tested in the Department laboratory by department staff. Twelve miscellaneous samples were also submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis and of these 4 proved to be satisfactory. In one case the producer of the article about which a complaint was registered, was taken to Court and prosecuted for a Food and Drugs Act offence. The other 7 cases were concluded satisfactorily following correspondence with the manufacturers.

Thirty-four samples of food were sent for bacteriological examination and of these 4 samples each had a high colony count.

The other 30 samples were submitted as registered food complaints. These samples were all free from enteric pathogens and no further action was required.

Mince

Twelve formal samples of mince were taken throughout the year and all complied with the prescribed Regulations.

Sausages

Five formal and six informal samples of sausages were taken throughout the year. In addition 10 informal samples of locally made

products ranging from salami and garlic sausage to beefburgers were also taken. Of the samples of sausages taken one formal and one informal sample were both found to be deficient in meat content required under the Sausage and Other Meat Product Regulations, 1967. In both cases the firms were written to and an explanation demanded. Three samples of the locally made products also failed to conform to the Sausage and Other Meat Products (Scotland) Regulations. In one case the sale of the product was discontinued following correspondence with the manufacturers whilst in the second case following upon an interview with the manufacturer of the product the matter was taken up with the Scottish Home and Health Department whose reply is still awaited. Following upon an interview with the manufacturer of the third sample a follow-up sample was taken and this proved satisfactory.

Spirits

Twenty-seven formal samples of spirits were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis under the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956. One formal sample of rum and one formal sample of gin both proved to be minimally below proof (69.5°) and warning letters, demanding an explanation, were sent to the licensed premises concerned.

One informal sample of 'Scotsmac' a Scottish wine blended with whisky was reported by the Analyst as unsatisfactory. The label having no declaration of strength was reported as being misleading under the Trades Description Act, 1968, and also a contravention of the Labelling of Food Order, 1953. Following correspondence with the firm in question they agreed to comply with the Labelling of Food Order, 1953, by expressing the percentage of proof spirit on the label of the bottle in future. As previously mentioned 24 informal samples of spirits were taken and tested in the department laboratory by department staff. Of these, four samples (2 rum, 1 whisky and 1 gin) proved to be unsatisfactory. Follow-up official samples of whisky, gin and one rum were taken. The rum and whisky proved to be satisfactory but the sample of gin again proved to be unsatisfactory. The Distillers and manager of the hotel concerned were both written to on the matter and this correspondence continued into 1972.

General Remarks

Of the other samples taken and found non-genuine, but not mentioned previously, a short report follows:

Turkey Soup: One informal sample was taken and found to be deficient in meat content. The manufacturers were written to and an explanation demanded. The department was satisfied with the explanation offered.

Marmalade: An informal sample of marmalade made by a local restaurateur did not conform to the Labelling of Food Order, 1953, Para 4, Section 2, in that the label did not bear the name and address of the

manufacturers or packer. The manufacturer was written to and advised to comply with the prescribed Regulations.

Bramble Jelly: An informal sample of Bramble Jelly was reported by the Analyst as being deficient in fruit content to the extent of 31.6% and did not conform to the Food Standards (Preserves) Order, 1953. The firm was notified of this contravention and following upon a letter of explanation, the matter was again referred to the Public Analyst.

Butter: An informal sample of Scottish Pride Butter did not conform to the Butter (Scotland) Regulations, 1966, in that it contained 16.5% moisture. The manufacturers were written to and an explanation demanded. The Department was satisfied with the explanation given.

Vodka Flavoured Drink: An informal sample labelled Vodka Flavoured Lime Drink was reported by the Analyst as being misleading and a contravention of the Trades Description Act. A warning letter was sent to the firm concerned.

Cheese: An informal sample of St. Ivel Scottish Cheddar Cheese was reported by the Analyst to be unfit for human consumption, due to penicillin growth. Following upon an inspection of the premises from which the sample was taken the cause of the trouble was found to be improper means of storage. The shop manager was given a verbal warning and advised as to the proper means of storage. A further informal sample of 'Cottage Cream Cheese' failed to conform to the Cheese Regulations, 1970, in that it was deficient in fat to the extent of 61.6% after being written to, the manufacturers submitted a satisfactory explanation.

5. Food Premises and Food Hygiene

A total of 1,132 inspections were made to food premises including 447 inspections of mobile shops and delivery vehicles as compared with 1,443 during 1970.

Improvements were effected in many premises and a generally good standard prevails.

There is however, a widening gulf apparent in the environmental hygiene of new premises and some long established food businesses which, although in the main well conducted, are often severely handicapped by poor internal design, along with extensive use of traditional surfaces and old-fashioned equipment. Therefore these premises do not lend themselves to rapid and efficient cleaning, offer harbourage to vermin of all kinds, and efforts are still required in these cases to achieve a satisfactory compromise.

It was found necessary to institute legal proceedings against 3 proprietors of food businesses in 1971 as a result of poor hygiene and many written intimations were sent in respect of deficiencies. Verbal advice was also given in many instances.

While there is satisfaction to be taken from the continuing improvement of premises there are many areas of practice with much room for improvement.

The licensed trade for example, can derive little satisfaction from a number of undesirable practices which are the rule rather than the exception.

The beer drip tray, an innovation to obviate spillage is now more commonly used to avoid 'waste' thus beer which has been lying exposed for varying periods and which often consists of the overflow from glasses currently in use, is frequently served up to unsuspecting customers. The use of oversized glasses equipped with a franked measure mark would appear to present a logical alternative to both 'spillage' and 'waste'.

Glass-washing also, particularly during busy periods, is frequently a token gesture rather than a serious attempt at sterilisation and while all premises are now equipped with twin sinks to facilitate washing, sterilising and rinsing as required by the Food Hygiene Regulations, bacteriological tests on 'clean glasses' and rinse water have, in the main been most unsatisfactory, and have borne out the worst suspicions of casual observations. The licensed trade generally has been slow to adopt automatic glass washers despite the availability of many excellent machines which would no doubt bring about a considerable improvement.

Smoking, a habit thankfully on the wane in most other areas of food preparation and service, continues to flourish behind a great many bars.

The growing popularity of catering as an adjunct to licensed retailing necessitates that those premises with unhygienic habits reappraise their methods and upgrade them to the standard required and expected in 1971.

Hotels and restaurants were circularised shortly before the commencement of the Christmas function season, which has expanded enormously in recent years, and advised of the dangers associated particularly with poultry preparation and service, a frequent source of salmonella food poisoning. It is felt that with the pressure placed on catering establishments during that period that ever-present dangers are most likely to arise and while it is not the function of this department to advise proprietors of their business methods there are doubtless many establishments who invite more custom than their premises can adequately cope with. This involves cooking of poultry and meat at long intervals before service often in small kitchens with limited cold storage, resulting in cooked food being frequently stored in close proximity to uncooked poultry which exposes patrons to considerable risk.

With the closure of butchery shops in some districts, the trend to retail both fresh and cooked meats from chilled counters in some general stores has increased. Although many of these businesses are well run the majority of these premises are poorly equipped, usually have severely restricted space and frequently the staff are ignorant of the dangers of cross-contamination when handling both cooked and raw meats.

Of the many food complaints received from the public during the year the most numerous stemmed from extraneous foreign bodies in food stuffs, often of insect or animal origin. Mould complaints also featured prominently indicated once more that stock rotation and storage conditions of foodstuffs require greater attention in many cases.

The Food Hygiene and Handling of Food Course held at Kirkcaldy Technical College for employees in the food industry is still proving popular and several students received diplomas from the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene on successfully completing the course, members of staff once more participating in lectures.

The large food poisoning outbreak in the Burgh during the year (referred to elsewhere in this report in greater detail) illustrates the need for further education of food handlers and for proprietors of food businesses to attach greater importance to hygiene as a component of business efficiency.

The general public can also play a role by remonstrating with proprietors when bad hygiene is apparent and transferring their custom to those premises with a higher regard for good hygiene.

Links Market

All the food stalls and vans were inspected under Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations, 1959-66. The majority of the stalls complied with these Regulations.

However, on a number of visits the persons working in the stalls were told to wear some sort of protective clothing. The general excuse given was that they had just relieved the stallholder for a short time. In future it is recommended that all persons working in a food stall or van be notified of this requirement in the conditions of let.

The use of kettles to provide hot water was still prevalent this year. These people were advised on the need to obtain gas or electric boilers for the following year.

6. Unsound Food

Regular weekly visits continued to be made to wholesale grocery warehouses throughout the town, apart from random inspections for the purpose of detecting and condemning food. Some 117 inspections were made resulting in the undernoted foodstuffs being voluntarily surrendered for destruction, mainly by burial at the refuse tip.

	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Canned Fruit	5,630	151 $\frac{1}{4}$
Canned Vegetables	3,749	7
Fresh Fish	56	0
Canned Fish	7	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Meat	4,211	13

Canned Meat and Vegetables	14	8
Canned Milk and Cream	47	12 $\frac{1}{4}$
Canned Soup	2,795	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Jam	24	4
Canned Pudding	342	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Miscellaneous	103	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,983	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>

In the course of the year the complete stock of 13 frozen food cabinets were inspected due to mechanical breakdown and as a result large amounts were removed for disposal. In addition to this a large amount of food was removed for destruction due to the thawed condition of the goods when delivered to the premises.

7. Meat Inspection

The long awaited modernisation of the slaughterhouse at last got under way when the Health Committee at their April meeting approved the plans and the tenders for the modernisation work. This is a joint effort between the local authority and F.M.C. (Meat) Limited who operate the slaughterhouse and act as slaughtering contractors for the Town Council, whereby F.M.C. are providing the equipment, cold storage accommodation, and new boiler plant, and the Council are undertaking the structural alterations. By the end of the year the major part of the alteration work had been completed, the pig killing hall had been provided with a dehairing machine, a new line system for cattle had been introduced with ancillary hide and gut rooms, and a new sheep killing area established. The cold stores had been introduced into the former cooling halls, and the central area of the building converted into a cooling hall.

The throughput of animals slaughtered is slightly down on the 1970 figures but this could be due to some limitations on slaughter for short periods while the modernisation work was proceeding.

MEAT INSPECTION

**Meat found to be unfit for human consumption during the year
ended 31st December, 1971**

	Cattle excluding Calves	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	TOTAL
1. TUBERCULOSIS					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit	—	—	—	140	140
(c) Organs only unfit	7	—	—	79	86
2. CYSTICERCOSIS					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses affected but passed after treatment by refrigeration	7	—	—	—	7
3. ACTINOBACILLOSIS AND ACTINOMYCOSIS					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit	—	—	—	2	2
(c) Organs only unfit	60	—	—	—	60
4. TRICHINOSIS					
Whole carcasses unfit	—	—	—	—	—
5. SEPTICAEMIA (fevered carcasses)					
Whole carcasses unfit	3	1	4	2	10
6. BRUISING AND INJURY					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	2	—	4	2	8
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit	7	1	8	11	27
7. ALL OTHER CONDITIONS					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit	10	3	39	34	86
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit	41	—	73	55	169
(c) Organs only unfit	2,686	4	2,154	733	5,577
8. Total items 1 to 7 above excluding the figures at 2(b) of item 2	2,816	9	2,282	1,058	6,165
9. Total number of animals inspected during the year at the slaughterhouse	8,601	102	21,609	7,430	37,742

Weight of carcase meat condemned 13,434 lbs.

Weight of organs condemned 38,817 lbs.

Weight of Poultry condemned 56 lbs.

8. Ice Cream Premises

In terms of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948, the following premises and vehicles were registered by the Town Council at 31st December, 1971.

Premises (Manufacture, Storage and/or Sale)	4
Premises (Manufacture, Storage)	3
Premises (Storage and Sale)	11
Vehicles (Sale only)	25
Vehicles (Manufacture, Storage and Sale)	1

Seventeen visits were made to manufacturing and retailing premises for the purpose of ascertaining the hygienic standards current in the various premises and generally apart from minor items of maintenance good standards prevailed.

While several premises are still equipped with pasteurising plant for ice cream manufacture there is now only one plant in regular use. The majority of manufacturers now appear to find it more economic and less time consuming to buy in a cold dry mix and manufacture from that stage.

The tendency for centralisation in the food industry generally is further shown in the ice cream trade by the continuing trend for manufacturer/retailer to become purely retailers and to purchase ready made ice cream from large outlets.

Ice Cream vans were also inspected throughout the year and while the condition of individual vehicles continues to improve there are still problems from time to time with hot water supply and provision of utensil sterilising rinses.

Premises and vans were also visited for the purpose of bacteriological sampling and 70 samples were taken throughout the year, 13 of which proved to be unsatisfactory.

Bacteriological Range	No.	No. with Coliform Bacilli
0 — 500	6	—
501 — 1,000	26	1
1,001 — 5,000	15	2
5,001 — 10,000	9	3
10,001 — 15,000	2	—
15,001 — 25,000	2	2
25,001 — 50,000	3	1
50,001 — and over	5	3
Uncountable	1	1
TOTALS	70	13

Eight samples were submitted for analysis in terms of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1970. A summary of analysis is given under Section 4 of this report. Several premises were warned for not complying with Section 6 of these Regulations which deals with labelling requirements.

9. Shops Act

A total of some 409 visits were carried out to shop premises throughout the year. In most cases visits under this Act were made in conjunction with visits under other legal enactments. Several enquiries were made throughout the year by shop assistants regarding various conditions of work such as permitted hours. Advice was given where possible and in some cases, employees were referred to their shop trade unions to ascertain working conditions.

Throughout the year 50 plans with proposals for premises affected by the Shops Act were submitted to the Dean of Guild Court. The recommendations and observations of this department were duly recorded regarding these plants.

The usual order was made suspending the general closing hours for a period of seven days over the Christmas period. The Council also made an Order suspending the obligation to close on the weekly half holiday for the period 13th to 31st December, 1971.

10. Places of Public Refreshment

At the end of 1971 there were 26 premises on the register of places of public refreshment. This shows a reduction of one from the previous year. There were no other changes.

Plans submitted containing proposals for alterations or improvement for hotels or public houses was 11, concerning licensed clubs 17. All proposals concerning plans were accepted and embodied in the proposals.

Throughout the year of 1971 there were a total of 136 visits made to Places of Public Refreshment.

GENERAL SANITATION

11. Nuisance and Sanitary Defects

During the year some 589 complaints were dealt with by the Department. As usual quite a number of complaints were of a trivial nature and were easily dealt with and rectified without further action being necessary. These complaints involved some 1,862 visits and re-visits being made throughout the year.

Some 44 intimations in terms of legislation were served in relation to nuisances.

The following table lists the number and type of nuisances dealt with:

1.	Dirty houses and premises	9
2.	Dirty W.C. apartments cleansed	7
3.	Dirty stairs and passages cleaned	10
4.	Dirty areas and courts cleaned	7
5.	Dampness in houses abated or improved	50
6.	Defective tubs, sinks, wash-hand basins and baths	7
7.	Defective W.C.s repaired or renewed	12
8.	Defective W.C. apartments	4
9.	Defective rhones, waste pipes, etc.	18
10.	Defective roofs, repaired or renewed	7
11.	Defective floors repaired or renewed	0
12.	Choked drains or traps cleared	50
13.	General Housing Defects.	10
14.	Accumulation of rubbish removed	109
15.	Nuisances caused by hens, dogs or cats	19
16.	Nuisances caused by pigeons	17
17.	Verminous Houses sprayed	1
18.	Other insect pest conditions treated	48
19.	Miscellaneous Nuisances	169
20.	Wasp nests treated	36
		<hr/>
		589
		<hr/>

The Links Market being a well organised and conducted fair gave rise to no trouble as usual.

Only seven visits were made to piggeries and stables in the burgh.

The paddling pools in daily use received regular attention as regards cleaning and supervision.

A dust nuisance arising from the storage of boiler ashes for breeze block manufacture has been the subject of complaint over an extended period in the Beatty Crescent area. It is hoped this nuisance will now be resolved as the Council have leased the firm an area of ground for ash storage well removed from houses, while the former site of the ash dump is now being used for the storage of finished products.

One problem which remains unresolved in our modern society is the fouling of footpaths by dogs. The High Street, inner walk of the Esplanade and streets near parks, open spaces or grass areas appear to be the worst affected. While there is a local byelaw which makes it an offence for a person allowing a dog on a lead to deposit excrement on the foot path it is difficult to enforce this byelaw when the majority are dogs which are not on leads or merely allowed to roam the streets particularly in certain housing areas.

During the past year there has been considerable national publicity regarding environmental pollution in all its various aspects. Kirkcaldy,

like many other burghs, has a variety of pollution problems, but one which is more noticeable throughout the year is the illegal rubbish dump. Throughout the town on various open spaces and gap sites certain members of the community appear to get satisfaction in dumping old furniture and mattresses, empty oil drums, discarded cookers and wash boilers, not to mention ordinary domestic refuse and garden refuse.

Such dumps dispoil the countryside, and the neighbourhood; the householder defiling his surroundings is creating a deliberate act of vandalism. This all creates additional work for the cleansing department since vehicles and men have to be diverted to deal with these accumulations as and when they are discovered.

Noise Abatement Nuisance

Two noise nuisances arose in 1971. One from residential property which adjoined a hotel and at weekends when dancing was in progress some nuisance arose. However after discussion with proprietors some measures were adopted which should help to reduce the nuisance if not remove it.

The second nuisance arose from houses adjacent to a hospital where vibration from boiler plant appeared to be the source. Investigations are still proceeding.

12. Rats and Mice

The result of our activities for the control of rats and mice is as follows:

1. Number of properties inspected	758
2. Number found infested with rats or mice	111
3. Number cleared of rats or mice	89
4. Number of manholes baited	22
5. Total estimated kill of rats	376
6. Total estimated kill of mice	641
7. Income from services at private properties	£79.28

Regular visits continued to be made to Balbarton Tip throughout the year to check the rat population.

During the course of the year regular visits were made to a wholesale warehouse after an infestation of mice occurred. Treatment continued into 1972.

Baiting points which were established during 1970 in the vicinity of a maltings near the foreshore continued to be visited to ensure that a satisfactory control of the rat population continued.

13. Infectious Diseases

This year there was a large increase in the number of infectious diseases notified. This increase was accounted for by the large outbreak of food poisoning which lasted for several months.

During this outbreak all members of staff were actively engaged in investigating the cases, collecting specimens and tracing the source of the outbreak.

Due to a delay in notifying cases it was not until a week to 10 days had elapsed after the first persons became infected, that the department was called upon to investigate the first cases. This delay allowed the infection to spread via carriers and as a result the outbreak persisted throughout the summer. In the early stages of the outbreak there was a reluctance by the public and general practitioners to notify any gastro-enteric disorders, but with the resulting publicity the number of cases notified, increased.

Besides investigating the cases themselves, members of the department were engaged in taking swabs from various surfaces in food premises, taking sewer swabs, investigating complaints of unsound food and following up all contacts of cases.

A total of 762 cases were notified as suffering from some type of gastro-enteric illness. This figure comprised:

Dysentery	.	.	88
Food Poisoning	.	.	337
Salmonella	.	.	300
Enteritis	.	.	24
Diarrhoea	.	.	13

A further 20 cases were notified as requiring investigation. This figure comprised:

Scarlet Fever	.	.	12
Jaundice	.	.	1
Hepatitis	.	.	6
Erysipelas	.	.	1

14. Port Health

The number of ships calling at the port of Kirkcaldy fell abruptly during 1971, in contrast to the trend of increasing business in previous years.

The reasons suggested included a general recession of trade nationally and in particular the paper trade, dock labour disputes and the installation of a new grain silo at Methil dock which diverted some trade from Kirkcaldy.

A total of 79 foreign going vessels called at the port and 40 shipping inspections were carried out. Three deratting exemption certificates were issued to vessels.

A live colorado beetle was discovered on a vessel during the unloading of a cargo of wood pulp from Portugal, but close inspection of the ship revealed it, fortunately, to be a lone specimen.

15. Water Supply

During 1971 thirty-five routine samples of the mains water supply to the Burgh were taken to establish if the quality and purity of this supply was being maintained at the previously satisfactory level.

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>No. taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Chemical	2	2	—
Bacteriological	32	28	4
Others	1	—	1

The four unsatisfactory bacteriological samples were obtained from the drinking taps of the Corporation Swimming Pool approximately one month prior to the official opening of the pool. Follow-up samples proved to be satisfactory before the official opening to the public.

The other unsatisfactory sample was submitted for identification of 'insects' infesting the water. The 'insects' were identified as fresh water nematodes. This infestation occurs annually at about the beginning of the summer. The insects are harmless but from an aesthetic viewpoint are unacceptable in a water supply. Measures are in hand by Fife and Kinross Water Board to prevent this type of infestation re-occurring by covering the Carberry Reservoir, thus preventing the entry of insects.

Several complaints were lodged by householders about the aforementioned insects in the water supply and an explanation of the situation and advice was given to these persons in order to enable them to treat the problem properly.

During the latter part of the year there was a serious water shortage in the Fife and Kinross Water Board area. This of course affected the water supply in the Burgh and for a period of several weeks the public were appealed to by the Board to exercise the strictest economy in the use of water.

16. Factories

There were 296 premises registered in the Burgh and 147 inspections were made to ensure compliance with the standards laid down by the Act. Due to the amount of work carried out by inspectors during the food poisoning outbreak the number of inspections carried out was less than normal. In 6 instances defects were found but these were immediately remedied.

Plans were submitted and approved for the erection of 7 new factories and 30 other plans for various alterations at factories were also approved.

17. Clean Air Acts

With 99% of industrial concerns within the Burgh now complying with the provisions of the Clean Air Act there was a marked improvement in atmospheric pollution from industrial sources throughout the

year. Complaints by citizens of excessive smoke emission resulted in 44 observations being taken of smoke emission from chimneys serving boiler installations of factories and large industrial premises. Three cases of excessive smoke emission were noted and letters were sent to the offending firms. Fifty-eight routine visits were made to industrial boiler house plants and central heating units. Throughout the year boiler house installations at five large industrial concerns were closed down, these being a dry cleaning concern, a large destructor at a linoleum works, a steam laundry, a furniture repository and a pasteurising dairy. Eight applications for approval by the local authority of the height of chimneys serving new furnaces were received in terms of Section 6 of the 1968 Act. All applications were accompanied by plans for new buildings for submission to the Dean of Guild Court and in all cases our recommended chimney heights were accepted. Thirty-two visits were made to new boiler plants both during and on completion of the installations.

The following summary lists details of new furnace and boiler installations to which Section 3 of the 1956 Act applies:

Oil fired installations – 6; Gas fired installations – 2

Poor quality fuel was found to be responsible for the excessive emission of smoke from a large linen mill and a pasteurising dairy. The excessive emission of smoke from the power station of a large linoleum works was found to be due to a defective and broken firegrate which resulted in the two other large boilers being forced.

Emission of smoke from burning of old tyres at a British Rail Goods yard, burning of old furniture at an auction mart and burning of refuse at a hotel resulted in verbal warnings being given to the managers of the respective premises following which abatement of the nuisance was obtained.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION INVESTIGATIONS

The following summary of analysis is based on information kindly supplied by Mr. Ronald S. Nicolson, F.R.I.C., Public Analyst for the Burgh, from samples collected in the Deposit Gauges and on Lead Peroxide Candles throughout 1971.

Deposit Gauge Samples

Site	Average daily					
	Average daily			Average daily		
	Rainfall in inches			deposit of solid matter in tons per sq. mile		
	1971	1970	1969	1971	1970	1969
1. Loughborough Road . *	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.29	0.36	0.39
2. Denburn Yard . .	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.35	0.33	0.40

*Owing to vandalism during months of April, May, June, July, September, November and December records were deleted by Department of Trade and Industry.

Lead Peroxide Candles

Site	Average Sulphur Pollution in mgm SO ³ /100 cm/day							
	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
No. 1	0.79	0.79	0.74	0.53	0.68	0.68	0.72	0.72
No. 2	0.54	0.54	0.62	0.46	0.49	0.46	0.49	0.52
No. 3	0.38	0.37	0.36	0.32	0.38	0.31	0.31	0.37
No. 4	0.59	0.59	0.63	0.52	0.53	0.58	0.61	0.51
Average	0.57	0.57	0.59	0.47	0.52	0.51	0.53	0.53

For the third year in succession the amount of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere as measured by these lead peroxide candles has shown a slight increase over the previous years.

18. Burial Grounds

Burial grounds were visited periodically throughout the year and found to be well maintained by the Parks Department. The Corporation crematorium at Dunnikier was operated without complaint, the number of cremations during the year totalled 1,678.

19. Rivers Pollution

During 1971 three samples of sea-water and one sample of water from the Tiel Burn were taken.

The first sea-water sample was taken when a red discolouration was noted off Dysart shore. The dilution of the contaminant was too great to allow analytical identification of the substance responsible. Periodic checks were made however but the discolouration was not noted again.

The remaining 2 sea-water samples were taken after it was brought to the attention of the department that a metal working factory was discharging neutralised sulphuric acid into the sewer which in turn discharges into the Forth. The sample submitted for chemical analysis showed the sea-water to be slightly acidic while the sample submitted for bacteriological analysis confirmed this and further indicated that bacterial pollution of this water had already taken place. It is to be suspected that the bacterial pollution arises from the discharge of untreated sewage into the Forth. The contamination of the foreshore by solid sewage pollutants and colliery bing spoil continues to render the beach unsuitable for bathers, etc.

The sample from the Tiel Burn was taken immediately below Balbarton Tip in order to ensure that surface water running off the refuse tip was not contaminating the burn. The results of the chemical analysis of this sample proved to be satisfactory.

During a period of high tides combined with an easterly wind in April, some erosion of the seaward face of the new Frances redd bing took place. It would appear that as long as erosion continues to take place on the face of the old Frances Bing the protection it affords to the new bing during periods of easterly winds will be reduced. As a result when there is a combination of high tides and easterly winds the waves

sweep along the bay, getting behind the protective groynes along the base of the bing and washing quantities of redd on to the foreshore.

20. Schools, Cinemas, Public Buildings and Dance Halls

One hundred and fifty-one visits were made to schools, cinemas, public buildings, and dance halls throughout 1971 of which total 71 were in connection with schools. Most defects found were attended to satisfactorily.

Seventeen bacteriological samples of swimming pool water from schools were taken throughout the year, all of these proved satisfactory.

Six bacteriological samples of drinking water were taken from schools throughout the year and each of them proved to be satisfactory as well.

Forty-seven visits were made to cinemas, public buildings and dance halls prior to annual licensing, conditions found were generally satisfactory.

Work on the new public swimming pool was completed during the year and it was finally opened to the public in October.

Since then some 23 bacteriological samples of water have been taken from the pool, whilst 6 bacteriological samples of drinking water were taken. Initially there were a few unsatisfactory results but these were soon remedied and satisfactory results have continued.

21. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act

During 1971 a total of 218 visits were made under the Act. Of this total 133 were in the form of general inspections. Due to increased pressure of other work, less time was devoted to this particular legislation.

In the course of the year a total of 10 cancellations were recorded and 24 new premises were registered, bringing the present total to 638.

Throughout the year 38 plans were submitted showing new premises, or alterations to premises. These plans were examined in order that the requirements under the Act be fully implemented, though in cases of new shop units, the requirements under the Act were the responsibility of the tenants, not the proprietors. Most premises were found to be generally satisfactory in relation to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature and ventilation. However, as far as sanitary accommodation was concerned, it was found that some shops which have small storage accommodation available consequently persist in using their sanitary conveniences for storage accommodation.

In relation to the section dealing with Floors, Passages and Stairs, several letters were sent out which included drawing the attention of the owners to worn floor coverings and loose handrails on stairs. These matters were successfully dealt with within the year.

A few minor infringements were recorded in respect of first aid provisions being allowed to drop below the required standard. These were all cleared up satisfactorily.

During 1971 one shopkeeper was taken to Court under legal enactments, one of which was the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act. The shopkeeper was fined a total of £50.

One of the major plans approved during the year was for a large Central Area Redevelopment Shopping Complex comprising one supermarket and 27 shops. Construction work started on this development towards the end of the year and is due for completion in 1973.

Twenty-two accidents were reported during the year. These were all of a minor nature and none of the 22 involved the use of dangerous machinery.

A large cash and carry food warehouse was opened in Randolph Industrial Estate, while a former grocery warehouse following extensive alterations has been converted into a wholesale fancy and soft goods warehouse.

A High Street department store completed quite a large extension and as a result this store now contains a busy food section.

An application for a site for a hypermarket was turned down by the Council, and about the same time as this was being proposed, it was obvious that other authorities throughout the central belt of Scotland were concerned about the establishment of such large shopping units and the effect they would have on existing shopping areas in towns and cities. The concern felt was sufficient to justify a conference being held in Glasgow to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of discount trading and hypermarkets on urban communities.

CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

Quarterly test weighings of domestic refuse from households in the burgh were up compared with the previous year, the increases in the March and June weighings accounting principally for this increase. In addition a large amount of bulky refuse continues to be uplifted weekly by special collections.

QUARTERLY WEIGHINGS						TONNAGE		
<i>One Week's Weighings</i>						1971	1970	1969
March	.	.	.	.	.	248	219	237
June	.	.	.	.	.	221	202	211
September	.	.	.	.	.	234	228	222
December	.	.	.	.	.	217	218	240

An Eagle Compressload '5' on a Bedford chassis went into service during the year replacing an S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper which was ten years old. Test weighings on this new vehicle have given loads as heavy

as 4 tons 17 cwts. but the average varies between $3\frac{1}{2}$ and $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons. During the latter half of the year the two Gibson vehicles were giving problems and lost a considerable number of running hours due to breakdowns.

Sales of the 'Falkirk' type refuse bin totalled 371 during the year.

Refuse Disposal

It was estimated that about 13,800 tons of domestic and trade refuse was collected and deposited at Balbarton Tip during the year, while a further 10,750 tons reached the tip as builder's rubbish, trade refuse, street sweepings, gully tank contents, soil and demolition material. A large quantity of soil came in from excavations for the Central Area Shopping Redevelopment which was useful for top covering, while a large volume was stock piled for future use as covering.

In the early part of the year a new roadway was formed from the entrance gate down to the new tip extension, and after surfacing with road metal is operating satisfactorily. This has enabled extended maintenance work to be carried out on the old road which at the lower level was causing some damage to vehicles in adverse weather conditions.

The new paper baling plant has not been without its problems during the year. On two occasions fires within the machine took place probably due to sparking from the shredder unit, on the second occasion damage was done to the dust extraction plant. Later in the year the hammer shaft of the shredder was extensively damaged due to an axe head going through with the salvage paper and the machine was out of commission for a period of 6 weeks.

During this time the old box baling press which had been retained for emergency was brought into service.

Salvage sales for 1971 were as follows:

	<i>Tons</i>
Waste Paper	1,217.84
Baled Tins and Scrap Metal	30.06
Textiles and Rags	4.17
	<hr/> 1,252.07 <hr/>

Street Cleansing

A Johnston suction sweeper vehicle came into service in May and was put on a double shift system of beats operating principally on the main traffic routes through the town. Later in October two small Blaw-knox Pathmaster mechanical sweepers were introduced as part of the revised scheme for street sweeping whereby the number of manual beat sweepers will be considerably reduced. It is hoped these revised methods will reduce the number of untidy streets in various parts of the town.

The introduction of a full time weed control squad under the supervision of the Parks Department has shown a material improvement in the standard of weed control in the streets.

Public Conveniences

The two shift mobile cleaning squad introduced towards the end of last year have now settled down, and the more regular cleaning is beginning to improve the standard of cleanliness in the unmanned public conveniences. The ceiling of the gents convenience at Gallatown collapsed and these premises were closed for several weeks while temporary roof repairs were carried out. This is an old building part of which was closed some years ago, and there is now an urgent need to find an alternative site in this area. The Hill Street toilet block with full time attendants has now been open for over eighteen months and no major problems have been experienced. It has not yet been possible to settle sites for three new toilet blocks which are proposed to be built.

The cost of the cleansing services including the maintenance of public conveniences for the year ending 15th May, 1971 amounted to £191,689, after making an allowance for an income of £17,125 of which £12,238 came from salvage sales.

23. Civic Amenities Act

As has been mentioned elsewhere in the report, dumping of rubbish, not all of which is bulky refuse, continues to take place at various locations throughout the town. Whenever these are located the Cleansing Department clean up the site as quickly as possible. Facilities of course exist for the disposal of bulky refuse at Denburn Yard and in addition the Cleansing Section, by arrangement with householders, uplift a large volume of bulky refuse by way of special collections.

Attention to parking sites and open areas resulted in 55 intimations being served under the Civic Amenities Act calling on owners to remove apparently abandoned vehicles. In all cases the offending cars were removed.

The Dangerous Litter Act came into effect on 27th June, 1971. This Act has the effect of raising the maximum fine of £10 under the Litter Act, 1958 to £100 and that courts when fixing a penalty should take into consideration the nature of the litter and the risk of injury to persons or animals, or of damage to property.

24. Sewers and Drains

Extensions to the town's sewerage system during the year included a new private housing development at Newliston and a further extension at Dunnikier private housing estate. New sewers were laid for a local authority housing development at Oswald Road. At the end of the year the Burgh Engineer and the firm of consultant engineers engaged by the Council produced reports on sites for the proposed sewage purification works along with estimated costs.

25. Caravan Sites

It is anticipated that grant will be available under the Countryside Act for the proposed holiday caravan site at Dunnikier and that work on

the layout of the site and construction of the amenity block will commence in 1972.

There are about half-a-dozen sites in the town frequented by 'traveling people' particularly during late Autumn and Spring. The sites used are unsuitable for caravans and the occupants are encouraged to move on. The S.S.D. research report *Scotland's Travelling People* was published during the year.

26. Rag, Flock and other Filling Materials Regulations

There are no firms presently registered in terms of this Act.

27. Pharmacy and Poisons Acts and Orders

Authorised sellers of Part II Poisons numbered 18, covering 28 premises. Six visits were made throughout the year in connection with proper storage and labelling.

28. Pet Animals Act

Three applications were granted to keep a pet shop or deal in small livestock. All premises when inspected were found to be in good order and livestock kept under suitable conditions.

No premises are licensed in terms of the Animal Boarding Establishment Act, 1963.

29. Riding Establishment Act

There are no known riding establishments within the Burgh.

30. The Agricultural (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act

No statutory action was required in terms of this Act during 1971.

31. Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act

Two samples of fertiliser were obtained, one of which conformed to guarantee, but the other, a sample of Phostrogen was reported by the analyst as being below the guarantee in iron content. Since this product had been low in iron content when sampled the previous year, the precaution had been taken to obtain two samples and the second one was sent to the manufacturer who in turn sent it to a firm of independent analysts. Their result showed the iron content to be within the limits of variation permitted. The manufacturer advised me that since my previous correspondence a sample from each batch of Phostrogen produced was now being submitted to the local inspector and on each occasion the analysis had been satisfactory. The firm also advised me that the sample I had submitted was packaged about 18 months prior to purchase and therefore some deterioration may have taken place.

32. Historical—100 years ago

It is fascinating to browse through the old local newspapers and find out what was going on in our town a century ago. It is hard to realise that the central area of the town did not stretch much further back than the line Hill Street/Hill Place, and that in these streets there seemed to be a number of stables, cow byres and piggeries, one of which was immediately behind the 'National Hotel' and that these premises caused Mr. Arnott, the sanitary inspector, considerable trouble due to nuisances of smell, effluent and manure accumulations. There is record of an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease affecting 37 cattle in dairy premises at the head of Coal Wynd and the Newton. Subsequently the veterinary inspector reported that 'all the animals have recovered and are in a healthy state'.

Reference is made to two or three villas being built in the Fergus Place area and also in Townsend Place, and this latter street came in for criticism since it appeared to be little more than a cart track with deep ruts and muddy potholes, one resident having the misfortune to fall in to one of the potholes and sink up to his waist in mud. Considerable controversy was going on in the Council about extending the drainage system in that area of the town roughly from Charlotte Street to Nicol Street. Apart from the Council deliberations, there were numerous letters to the local newspaper in one case referring to the filthy and insanitary condition of Charlotte Street and the presence of an open sewer at its junction with Cowan Street. The Council were also concerned about the uplifting of manure and ashes in High Street and vicinity as early as possible and a byelaw was made insisting ashes be put out by 8.15 a.m. as it took about two hours to uplift the ashes in the High Street area. The quantities involved were 50 cu.yds. in summer and 70/80 cu.yds. in winter and most of this was dumped on Sands Road presumably to be washed out to sea at each high tide.

A special Council meeting was called in August regarding the possibility of the spread of cholera from Russia and the Baltic ports where an epidemic was raging. This concern should be seen against the considerable shipping trade which existed at that time between Kirkcaldy, Dysart and the Baltic ports. The threat of this disease resulted in a visit of inspection by Dr. Littlejohn, medical commissioner for the Board of Supervision on 2nd September who submitted a report to the Council. His tour of inspection showed that as far as external cleansing the town was in a satisfactory sanitary condition. There was now an abundant supply of pure water not only for domestic purposes but for washing streets and flushing closes, gutters and drains. The sanitary inspector dealt promptly with nuisances brought to his attention, but it was regretted that with such a satisfactory water supply the drainage should be so imperfect, a portion of the town actually draining on to the open street. Previous epidemics of cholera had taught the Council the importance of suitable hospital accommodation and the Harbourhead was a suitable building for 25 patients well situated as regards shipping and isolated. Since the last epidemic the building was being used as a common lodging house but could be cleaned at a few hours notice. One of

the main purposes of his visit was to clarify the action to be taken if a vessel with cholera aboard was reported to be in the offing, as there had been allegations that the pilots going out from the ports had been ignoring proper safeguards. By the end of November the fear of cholera had receded as the Baltic ports were then cleared.

Even in those days there were problems due to old coal workings, it being reported that 'the proposed skating pond at the top of the Newton has had to be abandoned since, when the area was flooded, the water disappeared down an old coal working.

33. Staff

There were no staff changes during the year, but it is encouraging to report that three members of staff, Messrs. Donnet, McPhee and Wallace who had attended a two year course in air pollution control at the local Technical College gained the Diploma of the Royal Society of Health in Air Pollution Control.

I must record my thanks to the staff for the diligent manner in which they have carried out their duties throughout the year and in particular the long hours worked in coping with the food poisoning outbreak during the summer months.

34. Acknowledgements

I wish to record my appreciation for the assistance given me by the Convener and members of the Health Committee in the discharge of my duties, and to thank my fellow officials and their staffs for their co-operation throughout the year.

